

BAY AREA REPORTER

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1528 15TH STREET, SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94103

VOL. XIII NO. 22 JUNE 2, 1983



A male and female duo, representing Sutter's Mill, roar into the finish line at the 11th Annual Great Tricycle Race on Memorial Day. The annual charity fundraiser is sponsored by The Mint, which donated most of the proceeds to AIDS research. More photos inside. (Photo: Rink)

AIDS Survey Finds Most Men Continue as Before

Many are More Careful About What They Do with Pickups

Most informed Gay men have been affected by the AIDS epidemic, but a recent survey shows that, although worried about it, most are continuing to engage in behavior that could transmit an AIDS infective agent — and at the same frequency as before they found out about AIDS.

This is one of the findings that came out of a survey of 600 Gay San Francisco men, done by three psychotherapists who were interested in what kind of reactions the acquired immune deficiency syndrome has had on the Gay community.

The study was designed by Leon McKusick, William Horstman, and Dr. Arthur Carlagni, all in private practice in San Francisco. It was an outgrowth of the reactions from patients in psychotherapy, as well as from friends and acquaintances, to the AIDS phenomena.

The researchers had encountered a wide variety of psychological reactions, including anxiety, depression, denial, guilt, phobic reactions, as well as lessening of sexual desire and expressions of homophobic sentiments about Gay life.

At the same time, they had also witnessed a confused impact on the sexual behavior of their patients and friends, ranging from no changes at all in sexual frequency or behavior to total abstinence from sex.

In February, 1983, McKusick designed a pilot questionnaire and passed out 70 to men walking out of bars in the Castro district and out of a popular bathhouse in the Folsom area. In addition, 15 Gay couples were mailed questionnaires. The researchers then developed a more lengthy and detailed questionnaire, which was based partly on the responses of the test group.

The final version was five

pages containing 130 questions. The questions were designed to produce a brief medical history, show changes in all forms of drug usage, and show changes in sexual behavior since finding out about AIDS. The survey sought to establish a baseline of sexual frequency in the three most commonly used sexual outlets for sexually active Gay men: bathhouses, bars, and relationships. In addition, there was an attitudinal scale which allowed the respondent to express his agreement or disagreement with certain statements about AIDS and about its impact on his Gay lifestyle. Finally, a section was devoted to gathering much-needed data about patterns of Gay relationships over the past five years for each respondent, as well as frequency of sexual activity outside current relationships.

SAMPLING

The research questionnaire was distributed to 1,000 men in San Francisco and the Bay Area as follows:

1. 175 Gay male couples (350 men) were mailed questionnaires. This sample was generated by previous research on Gay

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Sex Registration Halted by High Court

"Cruel and Unusual Punishment" Say the Justices

by George Mendenhall

Many thousands of Gay men are affected by a California Supreme Court decision released last week. In a 5-2 vote the justices ruled that it is "cruel and unusual punishment" to require people convicted of soliciting "lewd and dissolute" acts to register for a lifetime as "sex offenders."

For nearly 40 years state penal code 290 required that every Gay male arrested for sexual solicitation register — and to re-register every time he moved within the state. Although a man could have his arrest for 647a (lewd conduct) expunged, he could not erase his sexual registration records. A re-registering in every city in which he lived included fingerprinting and a set of photographs. Copies were sent to local police sex details, a state registration office, and the U.S. Department of Justice.

Allen Eugene Reed, now 54, made the challenge in 1979 when he was convicted of lewd conduct. Reed had masturbated himself in front of a plainclothes officer at a rest stop urinal. The challenger was not a Gay activist, but became angered when he learned that he would be registered as a "sex offender" for his entire life.

Reed, formerly married and the father of children, has been living with the same man for ten years at Newhall. He had served 21 years in the U.S. Air Force, retiring honorably as a Senior Master Sergeant. He had worked steadily since his military career and had no prior arrests.

The challenger had told the justices during the hearings earlier this year that it is "harsh and irrational for me to register, as it forces me to carry the mark of Cain for the rest of my life." The petitioner had never sought publicity during his 3-year testing of the law. When he heard of the court decision last week, Reed told his attorney, Jay Kohorn, "I am glad that something good came out of all this." Kohorn said his client wept and could barely talk.

"Petitioner is not the prototype of one who poses a grave threat to society," the majority opinion says, "nor does his relatively simple sexual indiscretion place him in the ranks of those who commit more heinous registrable offenses." Justice Frank Richardson disagreed, calling the act of masturbation in public "introductory conduct" that could lead to "even more serious assaultive sex offenses."

The Supreme Court indicated that it might look with favor on voiding the entire sexual registration requirement, but the Reed challenge was only on the "lewd conduct" section. People convicted of some sex crimes still

(Continued on next page)

\$12 Million for AIDS Likely from Congress

Funds Pass House; Same Expected from Senate

by Wayne April

The House of Representatives passed, 309 to 92, a \$4.8 billion supplemental appropriations bill last Wednesday that includes \$12 million for AIDS research. The surprise money will be used to fund AIDS projects through the end of the government's fiscal year, which ends October 1. The Department of Health and Human Services will seek an additional \$14.5 million for AIDS in the 1984 fiscal budget.

The surprise funding came at the last minute and in a highly unusual way, according to spokespersons with the Gay Rights National Lobby and Congresswoman Barbara Boxer's office. Both GRNL and Boxer's office had been lobbying extensively for the AIDS appropriation before the Appropriations Committee and among members of the House. Three weeks earlier, GRNL arranged for testimony before the committee by Dr. Roger Enlow, Director of New York City's Office of Gay and Lesbian Health Concerns; Dr. David Ostrow, director of the Chicago Health De-

partment's AIDS Office; and Ginny Apuzzo, director of the National Gay Task Force.

Although the testimony was impressive, and was specifically mentioned as such later by health subcommittee chair William Natcher (D-Kentucky) the committee "was originally resistant" to the AIDS funds, according to GRNL spokesperson Tanyan Corman. It wasn't until an under the wire letter was received from Dr. Edward Brandt, Jr., assistant secretary for health in the Department of Health, saying that the administration wouldn't object to more

AIDS funding, that the funds got inserted into the bill.

"The committee was really angry with the Dept. of Health," said Corman. "They saw it as a sudden reversal on Brandt's part."

Brandt's letter provided a pretext for bringing the AIDS funding back up, according to Boxer aide Mike Housh. "Ordinarily, it's impossible to bring up a motion on a bill that has already been written out of committee, but Natcher did it. Anyone could have blocked it, but no one did."

(Continued on page 5)

Gay Crime Victim Study Cuts Out Mayor's Claim

An Analysis of the New Crime Report

by George Mendenhall

When Mayor Feinstein alleged last November that it was a "myth" that Gays are more likely to be victims of violent attacks, the roof fell in. Numerous activists attacked the mayor and her conclusion, which she had based on a study by her own Crime Victims Task Force. The report was withdrawn after staff members of the mayor's Criminal Justice Council admitted they had erred.

"The Lesbian/Gay and Bisexual population is not more likely or less likely to be victims of violent personal crime than their heterosexual counterparts" read the original report.

The newly revised report emphasizes, "Due to definitional and reporting problems, making any definitive conclusions with regard to whether Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual citizens are more or less likely to be victims of violent personal crimes than their heterosexual counterparts is not currently possible." The task force now concludes that its research was limited because 82% of the anti-Gay attacks were not reported to the police.

Cindy Winslow, who directed the research, and Jim Buick, staff deputy director, were discouraged by the 1982 Gay activist attack on their lengthy report. The study was withdrawn for six months until it could be revised. The full 150-page document released last week reveals that 15% of the reporting victims reveal that they are Lesbian, Gay, or Bisexual. Some conclusions from the study:

- Over 75% of the victims reporting murder, rape, robbery, and assault in the city in 1981 were residents — not tourists.
- A large number of victims (24%) were Black, although Blacks are only 13% of the population. Chinese were victims only 5% of the time. They are 12% of the population.
- Most of the victims have lived in the city over two years.
- Slightly over 50% are either part-time employees or unemployed.
- Victims usually recover physically, but suffer emotionally from attacks for several months.
- Women victims (73%) felt that being a woman was a factor in the assault, while 50% of the elderly victims believed they were attacked because they appeared old. When quizzed, 43%

of the Gay victims said they were attacked because of their sexual orientation. Less than 20% of racial minorities felt they were attacked because of their race.

- People in low income areas often have more fear of being victims than those in high income areas.

"Victim" lists were provided by the police department. A study of offenders was also made from police records. It was learned that offenders displayed a gun in about 10% of the incidents and their use of drugs and/or mental illness were factors in 35% of the cases.

Most crimes occurred in the neighborhood of the victim and happened with equal frequency every day of the week. The overwhelming number of assaults occurred between people who knew each other — with the notable exception of robberies.

Gay people, among other classifications, often did not report crimes because of a belief that police will not help, because of language barriers, or because of a distrust and fear of the police. There was a feeling that the police will not apprehend and prosecute offenders.

The largest number of victims reporting were in the Western Addition, Mission, and Tenderloin areas. The areas with smallest number of victims included South of Market, Polk, and Castro/Noe — all frequented by Gay people. Victims were equally divided by sex, with the 25-49 age group having the highest number of incidents reported.

Numerous respondents to the survey "declined to state" their sexual orientation and the overall report said that many Gay people do not report crimes committed against them to the police or the Community United Against Violence (CUAV). Thus a survey of Gay victims, the report states, "is extremely difficult."

How is it determined how many Gay people are in San

Francisco if so many do not cooperate with a survey? One political research firm, the mayor's study explains, asked 841 people who voted at polls in 1978 if they were Gay and 11% said they were. In a random telephone survey in 1981, 601 people were asked the same question and 10% said they were Gay. A recent survey of 880 respondents reached by telephone had 9% saying they were Gay. The mayor's study concludes that possibly 12-15% of the population is Gay.

Police rarely relate information in writing as to whether individual victims are perceived to be Gay or not. The survey depended on admissions by victims themselves — although close to 25% would not even answer the sexual orientation question. Frequently, the council's report states, it is not whether a victim is Gay or not — but whether the person is perceived to be Gay by appearance or some preconceived notion.

The following self-protection suggestions are made in the report:

- Lock your doors and windows and install a "peep hole" in your front door.
- Walk in open areas, away from buildings — when possible, with another person.
- Do not invite a stranger that you just met to come home with you.
- Do not physically resist during robberies. Try to remember the physical characteristics of the robber to relate later to the police.
- Seek refuge if you think you are subject to attack.
- Keep your car doors and windows closed when driving.

The task force made numerous recommendations to agencies and the police department. The mayor has urged early implementation of two council suggestions — a 24-hour clearinghouse to serve crime victims and an emergency fund to help victims.

Men's Groups in the Castro

Professional therapy groups for Gay and Bisexual men are being held Wednesday and Thursday evenings in the Castro, 8-10 p.m.

The groups are led by Dr. Alan Rockway, a licensed Clinical Psychologist. For information call 821-6774; fees are \$20 per session.

Supreme Court Questions Police Decoy Deployment

The Supreme Court indicated how it feels about the use of police decoys in its decision last week on sexual registration. In an important footnote, the court quoted this section from *The Consenting Adult Homosexual and the Law*, published in 1966 by the UCLA Law Review:

"The [police] decoy's *modus operandi* at a public restroom may be to loiter inside, engaging a suspect in friendly conversation, using handwashing or urinal facilities, or even occupying a commode for long periods of time. If the suspect makes a lewd solicitation or touching, the decoy will usually suggest going elsewhere to consummate the act and the arrest will be made outside of the restroom.

"Since the decoy operates to apprehend solicitors, it is difficult to argue that he is a victim or that he is outraged by the proscribed conduct, particularly when he engages in responsive conversation or gestures with the suspect. In fact, complaints to the police regarding lewd solicitations are infrequent."

— GM

Sex Registration Halted

(Continued from page 1)

must register. These include indecent exposure, incest, sodomy, assault to commit rape, sodomy or oral copulation, forcible rape, and numerous crimes against children.

Unfortunately, expunging sexual registration records for those arrested for lewd conduct is not possible. The thousands of records are intermingled with countless narcotics registration files. "There is no way the records can be separated," according to Officer Mel Pinsler of the local police department's registration detail. Ironically, he added that the local files are usually used to determine the current addresses of repeat narcotics users and rapists. There has been almost no use of the files on thousands of registered Gay people.

Relatively few homosexuals in urban areas have any need to make sexual contact by cruising about public restroom areas. However, thousands of Gay people and married men seeking relief pursue this activity.

Few arrests are made for public sexual activity in San Francisco, where there are numerous sex clubs. Public Defender Jeff Brown said that the local police department has a general policy in recent years of not deploying undercover officers to arrest homosexuals in public restrooms. He said such arrests occur usually when an officer accidentally walks into a restroom and is blatantly confronted with such activity.

The justices said in their decision that the offenses under 647a "are relatively minor." The court also stressed that since 1975 private homosexual acts are no longer criminal, indicating that societal attitudes have changed.

In the earlier Pryor decision the court had limited "lewd and dissolute" to require that the police officer "know or have reason to know that someone might be offended by the conduct. This by no means renders the sexual overture violent or dangerous." But the decision went on to say

that it is "sufficient for conviction that a single undercover vice officer be present in a public restroom; no one need be 'victimimized' in the traditional criminal sense."

The lewd conduct section (PC 647a) was originally part of the vagrancy statute when it was adopted. It described as "very lewd and dissolute" people who "loiter in or about public toilets in public parks." Court decisions changed the law to be more specific and by 1970 (*Barrows v. Municipal Court*) the section declared that the violating person had to be one who "solicits anyone to engage in or who engages in lewd or dissolute conduct in any public place or in any place open to the public or exposed to public view."

Holding that the phrase "lewd or dissolute" was too vague (*Pryor v. Municipal Court*) the court in 1979 further limited 647a to apply only when there is a "touching of the genitals, buttocks, or female breast, for purposes of sexual arousal, gratification, annoyance or offense, by a person who knows or should know of the presence of persons who may be offended by the conduct."

In its decision the court alluded to the fact that the state legislature specifically requires registration of some offenses, but omits other offenses. Those convicted of these crimes do not have to register: prostitution, child pornography, bestiality, lewdness in the presence of a child, and pimping. The legislature had determined that "loitering around a public toilet" was a more serious crime than these.

Former State Senator Alan Sieroty had attempted to pass state legislation on three separate occasions in the 1970's that would have halted sexual registration. He failed to get it out of committee.

A local attorney, Robert Nakatani of Coles-Nakatani, wrote a supportive Friend of the Court brief that assisted the justices in their deliberations on the Reed decision. Also filing a brief for Reed was Los Angeles City Attorney Ira Reiner.

G. Mendenhall

Gay Rights National Lobby Hires Midwest Regional Director

Gay Rights National Lobby (GRNL) announced this week that it has hired Kathy Patrick to serve as the Director of its new Midwest Regional Office. The office, scheduled to open its doors this summer, will be located in Chicago.

A lifelong resident of the Midwest, Patrick has been living in Milwaukee for the last five years. She has worked as an organizer and political activist for the last six years, primarily with the National Organization for Women (NOW).

Patrick has been a member of Wisconsin NOW's Lesbian Rights Task Force since 1980. She helped coordinate NOW's participation in the successful fight for a Gay and Lesbian civil rights ordinance in Milwaukee, and later for AB-70, Wisconsin's Gay and Lesbian civil rights bill. She is also a member of the Wisconsin Lesbian and Gay Network and was active in the effort to establish the Wisconsin Governor's Council on Lesbian and Gay Issues.



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Atlas Seeks Gay President, Stock Value Almost Doubles

by George Mendenhall

The usually quiet atmosphere of stockholders' meetings was changed yesterday when Atlas, the nation's first Gay savings and loan company, held its second annual gathering of investors. President Gerald Flanagan, who is not Gay, announced that he is resigning and a new Lesbian or Gay male will replace him, probably in July. S & L's have been having financial trouble everywhere, but Atlas announced that its stock has climbed from \$10 to \$19 in one year. The only controversial aspect of the session was a lengthy attack on Atlas's employee relations during the question period.

Atlas opened a second branch, after becoming established on Market Street last year. That branch, at 18th and Castro, will be moving to a space now occupied by Eureka Super Market, 446 Castro Street (across from the Castro Theater). Construction on the 2-story Castro building, which will also hold the executive offices, will begin in August and will be completed early in 1984. The design will be "old Victorian" with a modern touch and will include a basement and mezzanine. The cost estimate is over \$500,000. It will become the main office. Additional branches are contemplated for the Polk Street and Financial District areas with a long-range plan to open branches in Hollywood and Guerneville.

Although Atlas suffered a temporary setback in 1982 by the financing of its first branch in the Castro, the office has proved to be a boon in deposits — close to \$9 million in that branch alone. It also has more total savings than the current Market Street main office.

The total assets of Atlas are a healthy \$38 million, a 196% growth in one year. Deposits in the past year increased from \$4 million to \$26 million, a 148% increase. Loans granted are over \$28 million, an increase of 849%.

President Flanagan stressed in his annual report that S & L companies can now offer a broad spectrum of services — many of them once offered by banks alone. These include commercial checking, VISA and MASTERCARD service, corporate services, automated tellers, and a large variety of loans.

Rumors that Atlas might split its stock two for one were unfounded, although John Schmidt, the S & L chairman, said the directors had discussed the possibility. In answer to a question from the floor, it was revealed that the directors are contemplating the issuance of additional stock.

The ghost of Jeannette MacDonald was felt by the assembled as the organist, projected high in the air, played "San Francisco" at the Castro Theater. The formal business session included staid financial reports and announcements. Everyone agreed to almost everything unanimously. Over 98% of the over 100,000 share votes cast for directors re-elected those currently in office. No one was nominated from the floor.

The question/answer period was enlivened by Rev. Charles Thorp of the Church for Unity

and Service. Holding a crying baby ("It was my day to babysit for a friend"), he read a detailed letter listing the names of 12 Atlas employees which he said had either quit or are resigning. Thorp said his letter asking questions about these employees and alleging poor employee relations at Atlas went unanswered. The letter was mailed to Atlas on November 6.

Thorp, a Gay activist in the downtown area during the 1970's, said that employees at Atlas "won't speak up because you hold their jobs over them. If you think working from force is okay, then ignore them."

Flanagan did not refer to those who had quit during his response. He said "some employees just didn't have it. I made some mistakes in hiring people and then the levels of incompetence were recognized. I now have complete confidence in our current staff and my door is always open to employees who wish to talk with me." When asked by another stockholder if Atlas workers were organized into a labor group, Flanagan replied that no such representation had been requested by employees.

When confronted with why Thorp's letter, a vitriolic attack on Flanagan himself, was not answered, the President replied, "We do not always answer kooky letters." His response was applauded.

The criticism of Flanagan and employee relations at Atlas ruffled the feathers of several stockholders who felt that an additional attack from the floor of the meeting was unfair. There was considerable praise from the Atlas chairman, Schmidt, who told the gathering, "Gerry has our heartfelt thanks for helping direct Atlas in its formative months." Schmidt, alluding to the Thorp criticism, said, "Employees often leave for better opportunities."

Flanagan expressed delight that he was part of the Atlas growth and said he was proud of his role in the success of Atlas. He stressed, "I said some time ago that if I did my work properly, I should work myself out of a job. I believe I have done this job properly, and it's now time for me to turn the reins over to a qualified member of the Lesbian/Gay community. This company should be and must be managed and operated by the Gay community. No one can serve your needs and aspirations better than you yourselves." ■

Health Dept. Orders AIDS Warnings

The city Health Department has ordered Gay bathhouses to post AIDS warnings before the annual Gay Pride Parade celebrations begin at the end of June. City Health Director Dr. Mervyn Silverman said that he will use his powers over the city-licensed bathhouses to get health warnings posted.

He is also meeting Thursday (June 2) with Gay businessmen to discuss what to do about other businesses where sexual activity takes place, but over which the Health Department has no control.

This story will be covered in greater detail in next week's Bay Area Reporter. ■

Police Commission Hires OCC Director

Black Attorney Chosen to Head New Police Review Board

by George Mendenhall

Lawyer Eugene Swann, 48, has been chosen by the five-person SF Police Commission to head the city's new Office of Citizen Complaints. The dynamic Black activist has served as a legal services attorney in the East Bay, helping low-income residents. He will now head up a civilian staff of investigators who will check out and analyze complaints citizens have against police officers. The office is being established after a series of public hearings and a strong public vote for establishing the office in last November's election.

Eugene Swann lives in the East Bay town of Orinda. He is single and the father of three children aged 13-20 who attend East Coast schools.

Since 1977 Swann has been teaching while practicing defense law. Earlier, 1963-1967, he served as deputy district attorney for Contra Costa County. More recently he was director of the Contra Costa Legal Services Foundation, a nonprofit free legal aid society.

The attorney has served as a hearing officer for the state Personnel Board and as a judge pro tem of the Municipal Court. He was named Outstanding Legal Services Attorney in 1972 by the

National Legal Aid and Public Defenders Association.

Commissioner Jo Daly, a Lesbian activist, said she was amazed "that a person with his abilities wants the job." She added, "As far as the Lesbian/Gay community is concerned, he will work well for us. I believe our community will like him."

Commissioner Jane McKaskle Murphy, a member of the Toklas Democratic Club, and her colleague, former Police Chief Al Nelder, did the candidate screening. They sifted through 108 applicants. There was considerable criticism along the way over the sometimes poorly scheduled public hear-

ings and lengthy police checks on candidates. The commission was accused of "stalling" by Supervisor Harry Britt.

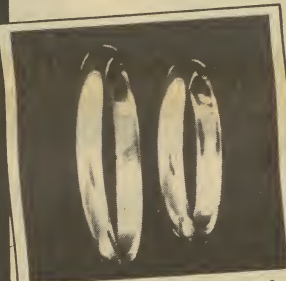
"It has been a deliberate and thoughtful selection process," Daly now emphasizes. "The soul-searching the commissioners went through has been very healthy for us. We have been extensively discussing, more than ever before, our relationship with the police and with the public. We now have a better — a stronger — commission as a result."

There has been speculation that a lawsuit filed by Britt may further delay the setting up of the board. The legal action is an attempt to limit the funds allowed in the November vote to hiring only a director and investigators. This would require other staff and clerical help to be hired from other financial sources. The original measure voted by the public allowed \$645,810 for the first year's budget. The City Attorney has issued an opinion that all of the office's funds must come from the voted amount.

Commissioner Murphy told this reporter, "We all want additional money. If this suit can get us more money that will be fine." She emphasized that the current three Commission clerks can help set up the new office and said she is hopeful that additional help can be found from other departments so there will be no delay. ■

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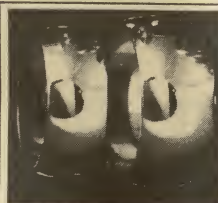
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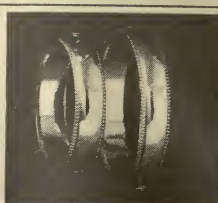
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The "Nothing Special" tricycle duo careen into the finish line to the cheers of an estimated 5,000 spectators. (Photo: Rink)

Lesbian Denied Visits to 'Semination' Child

What is probably another "first" in legal history occurred last week when a Lesbian was denied visitation rights to her former same-sex lover's child.

Linda Loftin, who was party to artificially inseminating her partner five years ago, was denied the right to visit the child of her ex-lover. Loftin claimed she had been a better "father" to the child than many men were. Her former partner, Mary Flournoy, disagreed and insists that continued visits by Loftin would damage the child.

Loftin had visited the little girl periodically over the past three years since the couple separated. A trial is pending to determine the visitation rights but Loftin was seeking a temporary right to visit.

Alameda Superior Court Judge Demetrius Agretelis had asked the couple to reach an out-of-court arrangement on visitation rights but they failed to do so. He has now asked the county family service agency to report back to him by August 12 as to a proper course of action. ■

Gay American Indians Sponsor Benefit

Gay American Indians (GAI), an organization serving the Gay American Indian community, will be sponsoring a benefit to raise money for the GAI contingent in the Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Parade, Sunday, June 6, in San Francisco.

The benefit will be held at the El Rio, 3158 Mission Street, San Francisco, on Friday, June 10 from 6 to 10 p.m. ■

Thrift Store Collects \$7,000 More for Gay Groups

The Community Thrift Store has an additional \$7,123.07 for Gay, Lesbian, and other non-profit groups. This money is the profit from their second quarter of operation.

The current profit distribution should go faster than the first one, since most of the bigger beneficiaries have now clarified their tax status for the store. Altogether, nearly 90 projects and charities will share in the \$7,000.

The sum of money is approximate and must be voted on and passed by the Tavern Guild Foundation Board. This board will have its quarterly meeting in the Middle of June.

The Community Thrift Store is operated by a troupe of 40 to 50 volunteers whose idea of good

times is to work hard at playing store, and to see how much money they can raise for Lesbian, Gay, and other good causes. Volunteers include both straight and Gay men and women.

Donations are still coming faster than they can be processed, and the store is still welcoming additional volunteers.

Manager Don Miesen says that all lines of goods have been moving well, except they have developed a big overstock of clothing. To deal with the clothing overstock, they are discarding even the slightly damaged items, and selling the rest at \$1 or less per garment. People on limited budgets (and who isn't these days??) should take advantage of this remarkable clothing sale. ■



Tricycle Race officials (?): "Dr." Naomi Murdoch, "Cigarette Girl" Gladys Bumps, and "Hot Lips" Nurse Nina at the Civic Center. (Photo: Rink)



AIDS supporters: (l. to r.) Dr. Roger Enlow, Dr. David Ostrow, Ginny Apuzzo, Rep. Bill Green, Steve Endean.

AIDS Funding

(Continued from page 1)

The motion to amend the committee's bill was made by both Natcher and Sylvio Conte (R-MA), the committee's ranking minority member. It was discussed for about an hour on the floor of the House, with testimony given in support of it by Boxer and others. The amendment passed by voice vote.

The most active House supporters of the AIDS funding were representatives Barbara Boxer (D-CA), Julian Dixon (D-CA), Edward Roybal (D-CA), Henry Waxman (D-CA), Sidney Yates (D-IL), Mike Lowry (D-WA), Ted Weiss (D-NY), Bill Green (R-NY), and Josephine Addabbo (D-NY).

"The vote spoke well of our lobbying program," said Housh. "The only good thing to come out of this AIDS epidemic is that people here have become more positive and concerned about Gay people."

On May 26 the Senate Appropriations Committee passed an almost identical \$12 million AIDS supplemental appropriation. According to GRNL, key

Senate staff members predict the \$12 million proposal will pass the full Senate this month.

The funding increase, if approved, will nearly double the federal government's 1983 budget for AIDS research.

In the Senate, Lowell Weicker (R-CT) and Daniel Moynihan (D-NY) have led the AIDS research funding battle. Support has also come from Senators Lawton Chiles (D-FL), Alan Cranston (D-CA), Alfonse D'Amato (R-NY), Edward Kennedy (D-MA), and Paul Tsongas (D-MA). Weicker recommended that \$12 million in "new" money be spent on AIDS this year, in addition to the \$14 million already budgeted. Weicker's proposal was included in the committee's supplemental appropriations bill without opposition.

"We are dealing with a public health emergency, one of mysterious origin and deadly consequences," said Senator Daniel Moynihan. "Public health officials suggest we may have only seen the tip of the iceberg, but one thing is certain: our search for answers must begin now." ■

W. April

Finally



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VOL. XIII NO. 22 JUNE 2, 1983

NEXT ISSUE OUT: JUNE 9

NEXT DEADLINE: JUNE 3

VIEWPOINT

LETTERS

An Overdue Thank You

In an almost continuous forecast of bleak weather ahead, the sun finally broke through. I am referring to the fact that federal funds for AIDS research seem to be forthcoming. It has taken a lot of people many hours of hard work to make this fact a reality. In speaking to members of Congress who voted for this measure, it boiled down to a severe straining of principles; the AIDS package is a rider on a Pershing missile appropriation. These members of Congress who normally would not have voted for the arms measure did so, in the assurance that this would be the only way to get public funding for the nation's "Public Enemy #1."

In the meantime here in San Francisco, "The City That Knows How!" once again shows its concern for its citizens. The mayor had already stated her concerns and granted thousands of dollars for supplemental aid and patient care services. This was followed by a resolution from Supervisors Britt and Molinari for a 2.1 million dollar supplemental AIDS package. The measure came out of the Finance Committee with the help of Supervisor Renne to the full Board. In a rare vote the entire Board voted 11-0 to grant the funds. Once again, many people worked very hard to put this appropriation together. This brings me around to the main text of this editorial, people.

Without the incredible amount of energy and time by volunteers and a sparse staff of underpaid help, the AIDS story in San Francisco and the Bay Area could have been a disaster.

Dedicated physicians and nurses, along with medical assistants, have given uncounted hours of treatment, help, counseling, and guidance to those with AIDS-related diseases, as well as to those who just needed reassurance that they had not been infected.

The staff and volunteers of the AIDS/KS office over on Castro field an average of 300-plus phone inquiries a month with approximately half of these going on to medical referrals. This group has kept up the public information forums and has helped to maintain the flow of new information as it arrives. They keep track of patients in and out of the hospital and follow up with counseling and assistance. All of these services have been done on less than \$70,000 for the year by generous donations from the community at large. Donations of any size are always welcomed and put to good use. All of these services are followed by the Shanti Project, whose volunteers do a quiet, efficient job for those afflicted in the many stages of AIDS-related diseases. Thanks should also be given to the tireless work by the staffs of UCSF Hospital, SF General Hospital, Kaiser Hospital, the SF Health Department, and the other Bay Area institutions and foundations who have helped to make all this funding possible.

But it is the volunteers, men and women, straight as well as Gay, who care, pitch in to help, and spend thankless hours at thankless tasks to make all of our lives more secure. So before the politicians take all the kudos (as well deserved as they are), let us remember and thank all those individuals who rolled up their sleeves and pitched in before it became "politically correct" to do so.

Bob Ross

Editor Paul Lorch is on vacation.

Protest on Ethics

★ I wish to protest the lead article in your issue of May 26 concerning the meeting of several concerned community people with some business owners with regard to AIDS. Mr. Berlandt, one of the article's authors, attended the meeting as a representative of the Parade Committee and was aware it was closed to the press. Mr. April was given the information agreed upon by the group that the meeting was positive, led to communication, and that further meetings would be held.

The article in the *B.A.R.* is in clear violation of these understandings. If Mr. Berlandt could not abide by the group's decision, he should have left the meeting. I consider his actions to be a serious violation of professional ethics.

Most of us at that meeting gave our time because of concern over AIDS. The various business owners attending were responsible and concerned. I am proud of them and I am dismayed that their good will and trust should have been treated with so little regard.

When we don't behave responsibly toward one another, many of us simply leave the field to the irresponsible and the unearner. I was asked to chair the meeting and did so out of a sense of community concern. I will think hard before putting myself in such a position again.

I hope reporters such as Mr. Berlandt will recognize their need to act more responsibly in the future. We want the news, but we want help in solving problems, too.

The Reverend James E. Sandmire
Pastor, Golden Gate MCC
San Francisco

ED. NOTE: Our reporter attended this meeting in his role as Co-Chair of the Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Committee. We asked him afterwards if he could write a story about the meeting. He felt that since the meeting was closed to the press, he could not quote directly anything that was said during the meeting. The information in his story was gained from participants before and after the meeting and printed statements distributed at the meeting. Others who attended the meeting were not at all closed-mouthed afterwards — witness Rev. Sandmire's own synopsis and Law Wilson's lengthy interview obtained by co-author Wayne April.

W. April

Alice Protests Meeting

★ On May 11, 1983, a letter was sent to Gay bathhouse, theatre, and club owners by a group of individuals requesting a meeting and that specific steps be taken in regard to the current AIDS crisis. This letter was signed by an individual who identified himself as a representative of Alice B. Toklas Memorial Democratic Club. This was done without the club's authorization and in no way reflects positions taken by our organization. Alice was not invited to participate in the closed meetings which produced this letter or to attend the meeting with the bathhouse owners. We had no knowledge of this letter's content prior to its release.

As officers and members of Alice B. Toklas Memorial Democratic Club we do not approve of the closed process which produced this letter or of its content. The AIDS/KS Foundation and the Office of Lesbian and Gay Health Services of the Department of Public Health were also excluded from these meetings. These organizations have been the primary providers of educational materials about AIDS that are factual and that provide risk reduction information in a manner that is supportive of Gay sexuality. In contrast, the information included (as an insert) in the letter to bathhouse owners for distribution to their patrons presents theory as fact and uses anti-sexual and sensational language.

No one knows what causes AIDS or how it is transmitted, but one thing is certain, if this illness is sexually transmitted, it can be contracted from someone met in church as easily as from someone met at a bathhouse.

There is no evidence that the bathhouses or private clubs are the cause of this illness. To single out one type of Gay business as somehow "responsible" for this epidemic is to begin the process of destroying our community.

It is important, especially during this health crisis, that we be careful and mutually supportive in our sexual relationships. However, it is essential that we never deny our sexuality. We must provide accurate and non-sensationalized information about this epidemic so that individuals can make their own informed decisions. Personal choice is a cornerstone of Gay liberation.

It is the height of arrogance to assume that only a small group of "concerned individuals" are aware of this epidemic and are capable of dictating sexual behavior for the rest of us. There is a trend among some elements of our community to be anti-sexual and panic prone at a time when we should be banding together to defend a way of life that is precious and hard-won. We have heard talk by individuals and groups of plans to inform visitors to San Francisco during Lesbian/Gay Freedom Week that this is an unsafe city and that sex with San Franciscans should be avoided. We have also heard of plans by some to picket and leaflet the baths and bars during Freedom Week.

What are these people really trying to accomplish? Labeling San Francisco as unsafe for our people is inaccurate and a direct attack on the social and economic viability of our community. AIDS is a national epidemic. AIDS has been reported in 37 states and in most urban centers in the United States, as well as 16 foreign countries in Europe, North America, and the Caribbean. Does it serve our community to frighten people away from San Francisco on the very day each year when we come together to assert our pride and unity? This year on Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day we should encourage the largest gathering of people ever, to show the strength of our community and to demand adequate federal funding for this health crisis.

This recent attempt to single out and intimidate in private one part of our community in order to force their acceptance of the agenda of a few cannot be tolerated. It is essential during this time of crisis that we discourage panic and conflict within our community. We must work together in an open and democratic way to include all elements of our community in our planning efforts: business, medical, social, political, and, in particular, the people who have AIDS. Encouraging unity, strength, and pride in our diverse lifestyles and in our fellow Gay men and Lesbians is our best offense during this attack on our community.

Randy Stallings President	Jo Kuney Vice President
Connie O'Connor Past President	Greg Day Issues Chair
Tom Buxton Membership Chair	Diana Christensen Women's Caucus Chair
Robert Barnes, Jr. AIDS Subcommittee	Frank Fitch

Coming Out to AIDS

★ AIDS poses a specially large problem to those of us who are just coming out. It is a different situation because (for me, at least) it is not at all an issue of whether I have AIDS, but whether I should become active and risk contacting the disease. Obviously, it would be extremely unhealthy to maintain the celibacy that this closet has forced me into, but where do I draw the line? Finally, when I begin to trust my deepest feelings I am hit with a deadly blow. I won't let it stop me, and I can't let it kill me.

Is there anyone out there facing a similar dilemma? I need all the support I can get.

D. Buckley
Kresge Box 769
Santa Cruz, CA 95064

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LETTERS

A Square Dance Convert

★ About a year ago a friend asked me to join him for a graduation party for his beginning class with Skip Barrett's Foggy City Squares. After the party, I was invited to watch the class square dance. As I watched those 50 or 60 Gay men and women on the dance floor, laughing and having a tremendous amount of fun, I knew that I wanted to be a part of this group. There isn't a disco in this city which can match or bring out the sheer energy and enthusiasm I was witnessing at that moment from the people on the dance floor.

During my first few dance lessons I felt awkward as I tried to coordinate my body to the time of the music and the square dance calls that Skip was singing. Over a period of weeks I gained some confidence and I started to experience "the energy." I was truly having fun! Then I knew it would be hard to go back to the bars and cruise as I had in the past. Now many of my dance partners were men I had seen for months in Castro bars. Here, we could drink beer, laugh, share in an activity of square dancing and have a good time getting acquainted.

Well, to make a long story short, I know that I am now hooked on square dancing. The man behind all of this is Skip Barrett, a man who solicits thanks for all who work with him, but rarely takes a bow himself. This man has a faithful following. He projects positive attitudes and is able to bring out that magic energy in each of us as we approach the dance floor. He is a special blessing for San Francisco's Gay community.

In light of the AIDS situation these days I would encourage your readers to investigate joining a square dancing group. During the month of June Skip is looking for new members to join the Foggy City Squares beginning dance class. It is an opportunity to have fun and meet new people in a non-threatening environment. Skip can be reached most days and evenings at 474-1917.

I want to extend my heart-felt thanks to Skip for heading up a marvelous organization, to Brian Jackson for teaching us the new square dances, and to the Foggy City Squares exhibition team and all my dance partners for support and lots of fun and good memories. I look forward to even a better second year. Thanks y'all.

Jim Norwood
San Francisco

Stars & Sex

★ The Gay community can take small consolation in the thought that it took the Roman Catholic Church over three hundred years to accept the fact that the Earth revolves around the Sun. The manipulation of sex, by which the Church has controlled the faithful, is of much greater importance than the movement of the stars. Hence, we can expect it to be another thousand years before the Church accepts, rather than merely tolerates, homosexuality.

If this were the era of Galileo, the nuclearly noble Archbishop John Quinn would have shown his love for us by burning us at the stake so that we might more directly experience the compassion of God. In the present instance he has simply used us as a foil, a *quid pro quo*, for his stand on arms control. Those of his flock who find his contemporary stand on nuclear limitations distasteful will delight in his classic denunciations of homosexuality. One does not have to be concerned with enlightenment on that issue, particularly its sexual aspects.

Alas, until the Church, and this means the total Christian community, can accept sexuality as an expression of love rather than sin which must be carefully proscribed, we will remain tolerated only. Reality for the homosexual Christian necessitates the splitting of the Church from Christ.

Martin F. Stow
San Francisco

Legal Help for AIDS People

★ I would like to take the opportunity on behalf of Bay Area Lawyers for Individual Freedom ("BALIF") to advise you of a recently formed committee to provide legal services for persons with AIDS.

Members of our committee have agreed to provide a one-half hour consultation without charge to any person with AIDS, and to prepare simple Wills and/or Powers of Attorney, without charge, for those who cannot afford to pay for such services.

If more complex issues arise for a particular client, such as questions of insurance coverage, employment difficulties, problems in dealing with landlords, etc., each case will be evaluated by a committee member and a fee arrangement will be concluded with the client, if possible. In the event a fee arrangement cannot be agreed upon, every effort will be made to refer the client on to another attorney or to a referral service.

Our experience to date indicates that we have been of significant help to a great many people, both by responding to people's questions and concerns, as well as by preparing documents which provide them with much needed peace of mind.

I would appreciate your including a brief note in your next issue concerning the existence of our committee, which should include my address and phone number for those who want additional information. That address is 235 Montgomery Street, Suite 911, San Francisco, California 94104, telephone 982-9211.

Please don't hesitate to call me directly if you have any questions.

Steven A. Richter
San Francisco

Marcello's Explains

★ We hope to clear up a small misunderstanding in regard to "The Candlelight March" poster. We were informed that a few people were upset at our longstanding no poster policy. We have this policy because we wish to avoid conflicts of posting some group's posters, but not others. We felt we could help the community in a more constructive way by giving a substantial donation instead.

James L. Mottweiler
Marcello's Pizza

Russian River Query

★ The cases of AIDS & VD are astronomical in the Russian River area.

As a resident of Guerneville, I see the cases increasing, at a frightening rate. With the influx of Gays to the area resorts, substandard sanitary conditions, open sexual attitudes, a program must be established.

Are there any programs being established to control this epidemic at the Russian River?

Marc Miller
Guerneville

AB-1 Flawed

★ Assembly Bill 1, the proposal to eliminate discrimination in employment based on "sexual orientation," may sound like a good idea, but it betrays an uncertainty as to what human sexuality is all about and sets a bad precedent. AB 1 assigns Californians to three sexual categories: the term "sexual orientation" is broken down into heterosexuality, homosexuality, and bisexuality. Not even the statutes that formerly punished extramarital sex and sex "perversions" between consenting adults in private attempted this stratification. yet, Art Agnos, author of AB 1, characterizes it as the "Gay and Lesbian employment rights bill," and the *LA Times* has praised it for "upholding the civil rights of homosexuals." This is hardly the way to change existing prejudices.

The trouble is that the term "sexual orientation" assumes, in advance of a demonstration of the fact, that sexual behavior is indeed a matter of orientation. No assessment can be made of the scientific propriety of such an assumption. It may be right; it may be wrong. However, a few scraps of systematic knowledge indicate biologic or genetic factors just as well. Without reference to some clinical proof — both sexual and every other, which does not now exist — inclusion of "sexual orientation" among the protected species in the language of this measure is meaningless.

It should be evident that God made men and women not heterosexuals and homosexuals. It is also discernible that the words "heterosexuality," "homosexuality," and "bisexuality" do not describe social classes of persons. Too many persons step outside the sexual-class-pattern in which they "belong." Heterosexuals have no rights; homosexuals have no rights. The state can no more guarantee freedom from discrimination on the basis of "sexual orientation" than it can guarantee eternal life. It can and has guaranteed the right to privacy. Sex is a matter of private conscience. How and with whom a man has sex is nobody's business. No reference to a quasi-suspect sexual classification or orientation is necessary to provide the protection.

Human sexuality is complex, complex in its origins, in the range of its manifestations, in its interaction to social conditions. To reduce all of man's sexual life to a matter of "orientation" — although understandable as a political tactic — considerably diminishes its richness and diversity. Furthermore, giving civil rights status to citizens by sexual labels misses the real point at stake, which is that the welfare of all Californians is best served by laws that prohibit infringement on the constitutionally protected right to personal privacy.

As of January, 1976, penalties against all sexual activity between consenting adults in private — whether between persons of the same or opposite sex or married or unmarried partners — where removed from California's penal code after years of harsh and unequal enforcement. The logical way to end any hold-over discrimination in the area of employment is to protect workers from an abridgment of the right to sexual privacy implicit in the new code — in the same way men are protected from unreasonable search and seizure and self-incrimination. Statutes aimed at preventing discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation obscure this principle by appearing to shield only the standardized "Gays."

The amendment to AB 1 should be withdrawn, reworded, and resubmitted. The wording should sufficiently describe the facts so that persons of ordinary intelligence will be able to understand what the state commands and forbids, and not be composed of catch words and phrases. Although popular at the moment and seemingly innocuous, the notion that "Sexual orientation" means heterosexuality, homosexuality, or bisexuality "should not be given legal authority. It is a loaded concept, and like the concepts lewd, moral and immoral, natural and unnatural — which are meaningless when it comes to describing sexual conduct today — it will cause trouble. To achieve its purpose the proposed measure has only to state that there shall be no inquiry into private sexual conduct as a condition of employment.

Don Slater
Los Angeles

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LETTERS

Why Not Celibacy?

★ As a native born San Franciscan, no one is more ap-
palled than this writer over the detrimental publicity
which is constantly directed against our city and its
citizens from all parts of the United States and foreign
lands.

We've always had the reputation of being a "spicy"
city, being a seaport and Mecca for travelers from all
parts of the world, during wartimes and peaceful years,
but few, including this writer would every have imagined
that the City of St. Francis would become labeled with
so many scurrilous names as has been directed against
us the past few years with the influx of the 80,000 or
more Gays...

I am of the opinion that had we more conservative
public officials directing the activities of our city the
past twenty years, San Francisco would have been
spared the avalanche of such a large segment of the Gay
lifestyle, and we certainly would have survived as a city
with less adverse publicity, disease, and moral degrada-
tion. The promiscuity that has risen in this fair city from
the "fast buck" operators who deal in sexual avenue-
type establishments which bears great blame on the
spread of highly communicable diseases, has made the
citizens of this city pay a high price, to say nothing of
the so-called Gay community which has been wracked
by tragic deaths. The newly discovered "AIDS" disease
has created a certain degree of panic in the city life of
our city, and justly so because it is hidden beneath the
cloak of mystery at this present time...

While Mayor Dianne Feinstein and most public of-
ficials have been most responsive and active in seeking
positive assistance to this very serious health problem,
should not members of the Gay community do a bit
of soul searching into their own life patterns which has
spread this disease to fearful proportions?

This writer who has attained much good from
periodic sexual restraint, suggests that individuals
practice a period of "celibacy", a moratorium on sexual
permissiveness. Those of us outside of the church
who have at various times in our life followed a course
of celibacy, can indeed testify as to the mental, physical,
and emotional gains that has been forthcoming.

Celibacy and abstinence can indeed rekindle the
creative forces within one during these periods. One
should contemplate this period as a point for moral,
physical, and emotional rejuvenation.

The large Gay community of San Francisco in its
greater numbers can do both great harm, and great good
to their adopted city, earning both self respect and that
which will follow from its neighbors.

The "Gay plague", as some call it, need not continue
its growth pattern in my city of San Francisco. I am
jealous of my city, the place of my birth, and as a native
born, I, and other citizens of this city do not deserve
the excesses of certain lifestyles which have brought rampant
abuse and promiscuity into our daily lives.

Members of the Gay community have a moral respon-
sibility to all of the people of this great city since they
have "come out of the closet", as some call their new
expressed lifestyles.

As a writer who has for years written and championed
the cause for national independence, self-determination
from colonial ruled peoples and nations, never have I
believed in the so-called "out of the closet policy" as
expressed by some within the community. The sexual
preference of individuals and consenting adults should
remain between those private individuals in a manner
and expression which both law, good manners, and the
community make-up adheres to in just and even
understanding...

The flaunting of the Gay lifestyle in San Francisco
the past several years has been a discredit upon the city,
those individuals who must advertise and attract in the
most bizarre manner to a level of shamefulness and
depravity that borders on the lunatic... freedom, in-
dependence of the individual starts in the mind, and
no amount of coming out of the closet can create an
atmosphere of acceptance unless it earns the respect
of its community... the Gay community has spent
much of itself on a wasteful lifestyle of over-indulgence,
endangering the citizens of this community... the people
of San Francisco deserve better than what they've
been getting from the Gay community...

Marc Troy
San Francisco

Milk "Party" — No Fun

★ Having just returned from the "Harvey Milk Birth-
day Celebration", I should like to address to your readers
some of my reactions.

I arrived at the Castro at 7 p.m. The air was a bit
"nippy?" shall we say, and in more ways than one.

The Choral Majority was singing their version of
"White Christmas", calling for us to do such lovely
things as to "crucify Dan White for show". The but-
tons on sale for the "Day to Remember" were plain and
simple, basic white with two words in new wave black
"off white". Very tasteful!

During my one hour stay at the "party", I had occa-
sion to witness the end of a "fight" and I mean fisticuffs,
always pleasant!

Having had enough of this merriment, I made my
way to the 24 Divisadero where upon I was witness to
yet another lovely display of human communication
(fisticuffs, blood, etc.) between Black and White.
Soooo? I've had a bad day? I think it goes deeper than
that! I'm not really sure where all this started, but I
wish the hell it would stop!

Michael J. O'Connor
San Francisco

Letter-writing Parties

★ Rather than weep and gnash our teeth about AIDS,
we can pressure public officials to fund research leading
to a cure of this epidemic. The recent March Against
AIDS was a good step in this direction. Another way
to pressure public officials is to organize massive letter
writing campaigns.

Last week, several Gay activists gathered at the home
of writer Bruce Boone for an "AIDS letter writing party."
Some of us typed xeroxed letters to pass on to other
friends. We wrote to several elected representatives such
as Barbara Boxer to support her proposed legislation
to fund AIDS research.

If every Gay person held similar "AIDS letter-writing
parties," we could exert tremendous political pressure.
Friends across the country could help too. Representa-
tive Boxer's address is 1517 Longworth — House Of-
fice Building, Washington, D.C. 20515.

"Writers are Fighters!"

Steve Abbott, Robert Glueck, Bruce Boone,
Bryan Monte, Denny Smith, Roberto Bedoya,
Kevin Killian
San Francisco

Feinstein for Archbishop

★ Archbishop Quinn's logic would flunk a freshman
college exam. He can't tell people that homosexuals are
sinful, perverse, evil and immoral on the one hand, and
on the other expect them to treat homosexuals with love,
respect and human dignity.

If Quinn is against gangs bashing in the heads of
homosexuals (*Chronicle* 5/20/83), then he needs to in-
struct these gangs that homosexuals have the same
human rights as their heterosexual counterparts. He
cannot continue to proclaim publicly that the Catholic
Church can "never" accept the homosexual lifestyle,
to forbid Gay men from singing in people's churches,
to insinuate that homosexuals are an inferior brand of
human being, and still expect these gangs not to at-
tack homosexuals.

Traditionally, there have been two brands of Chris-
tianity: that practiced by the people who live the mean-
ing of Christian love, and that one perpetuated by
leaders of organized religions. People of the first
category struggle through life hating violence, war, in-
justice, man's inhumanity to man, and understand love
as accepting your neighbor as yourself. Too many of
the latter brand somehow get caught up in being more
God than God, and fail to respond to the true human
needs of society.

Gangs who attack homosexuals are in need of a credi-
ble public voice, and they might better listen to Mayor
Feinstein than to John Quinn. She doesn't merely con-
descend to tolerate homosexuals, as Quinn so smugly
does. She accepts homosexuals and their lifestyle as a
valid emerging reality of contemporary society. Actually,
Feinstein makes a better archbishop than does John
Quinn — and that's something for a Jewish lady!

Jerry Walker
San Francisco

ED. NOTE: Mayor Feinstein's mother was Catholic
— maybe there's hope!

They're Not All Locked Up

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sex ads so I don't waste my 10 cents in a phone booth.
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people. If you don't I will sue you for breaking federal
laws.

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jackasses as you offend all sane, moral Americans. Ever
since Jack Kennedy (Yuk!) was president the so-called
"Democrats" have actually been nothing but nigger,
racist, commie shithheads.

I would ask you to kiss my ass but I'll never let any
employee of your sick rag have the pleasure of kissing
my beautiful young ass. You have a filthy commie rag.

If you do not start running GWM in your ads I will
report certain crimes of B.A.R. employees to my friends
in the F.B.I.

William Stevens
San Francisco

Lonely Prisoner

★ I would like to start writing back and forth to
someone that can understand me... understand my
feelings... and will take me for what I am.

I'm 28 years old, slim build, 143 lbs., 5'11", blonde
hair, blue and green eyes. I love to swim, grow plants,
play a little hand ball, I'm not very good at the game,
but I give it all I've got.

I'm doing time right now at the Indiana Reformatory,
I'll be getting out the first of next year. I grew up around
Fresno, Ca. I was only in Indiana 14 months before I
came to prison. I've been locked-up now 3 years and
8 months. I'm ready to come home.

If you can help me with a pen-pal, I'll be forever in
your debt.

Steve R. Asman #17331
P.O. Box 30 (13-1c)
Pendleton, Indiana
46064

Thorson Sues Liberace Again

Denies Sex with Father

by George Mendenhall

Wealthy nightclub entertainer Liberace has been sued again by his alleged ex-lover, Scott Thorson. Thorson's mother is filing her own suit. The former companion/chauffeur and alleged sex partner of the popular entertainer contends that Liberace encouraged a *Globe* newspaper article last October. That article purported that Thorson had sex with his father — an allegation denied by Thorson and his mother.

Liberace denies that he had any connection with the *Globe* article, although Thorson alleges that the entertainer paid its co-author, Wayne Johanson, to lie. The successful star, playing to packed houses at Lake Tahoe, told the *Los Angeles Times*, "Neither myself nor my staff had anything to do with that article. I am not even quoted in it. It is another attempt to embarrass me."

Thorson is attempting to get \$113 million in an earlier suit because he claims that Liberace cut him off last year after he promised him lifetime financial support. Liberace is 63 and Thorson is 23. The alleged ex-lover says that Liberace began to seek younger men. He said he

was shocked to discover his partner once with such a man in a sexually compromising position. Thorson claimed that he met Liberace when he was living in Las Vegas at age 17.

The *Globe* article described Thorson as a teenage male prostitute, but Thorson claimed that when he met Liberace he was sexually straight and was agreeable to Gay sex and companionship only after being given large sums of cash and gifts. The young man lived high and had little savings when he was cut off. Liberace claimed that Thorson spent large amounts of cash on narcotics.

Liberace has emphatically denied that any homosexual

relationship existed. The entertainer describes Thorson as a former "employee" who was his chauffeur, bodyguard, secretary and animal attendant. Thorson had trained briefly to be a veterinarian before he met Liberace and contended in his original suit that he was denied a veterinarian career by his relationship with Liberace.

The current suit adds an additional \$6 million to the original \$113 million. The action was evidently filed to stop Liberace from being connected with future articles that might damage Thorson's original claim. Attorney Michael Rosenthal, representing Thorson, said, "The *Globe* article was a put-up job to try to scare Scott from exercising his rights."

The *Globe*, a sensational national newspaper, published the Liberace story — favorable to the entertainer — shortly after the Thorson suit details were featured in *The National Enquirer*.

Bay Area Reporter readers may have seen Thorson on the Liberace TV specials or in the nightclub act. He was the one driving the star onstage in his Rolls-Royce and taking away Liberace's ermine wraps. ■

AIDS Emergency Sweepstakes Begins June 1st

Elizabeth Gatov, former treasurer of the United States during the Kennedy Administration, and San Francisco Sheriff Mike Hennessey have announced June 1 as the official beginning of the AIDS Emergency Sweepstakes.

AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome) destroys the body's defenses against many diseases and has caused a national epidemic of often fatal infections. More than 250 San Franciscans have contracted AIDS. The number of diagnoses has been doubling every six months. At present, there is no known cure for AIDS. In response to the epidemic, the Shanti Project has sponsored the Emergency Sweepstakes as a fundraising campaign. Shanti is a nonprofit agency founded in 1974 to help people who face life-threatening illness.

Gatov and Hennessey serve as co-chairs of the sweepstakes, along with Dick Collier, owner of the Trocadero Transfer, and Sherman Williamson, an Anaheim physician.

The sweepstakes is an effort to raise money for free patient support services, including housing, for individuals in Northern and Southern California who have contracted AIDS. Those who enter the sweepstakes qualify for the first prize of \$25,000 in cash. Other prizes include a Kawai console piano, a sailing weekend for two from Los Angeles to Catalina Island, a \$1,000 travel gift certificate, and a \$1,000 jewelry gift certificate. A \$10 donation per ticket is requested. Tickets will be disseminated throughout the state and nation via mailings, distribution by businesses and nonprofit groups, and individuals. Tickets may also be obtained at the sweepstakes office, 890 Hayes Street, San Francisco, CA 94117. Office hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Stephen Tripp is the office coordinator. Donations are tax deductible.

The winning tickets will be drawn at midnight, Saturday, October 15, 1983, at the Trocadero Transfer, 520 4th Street, San Francisco. Winners need not be present to win. ■

Gay Support Group Has Openings

Scott Eaton and Adrian Tiller, leaders of a support group for Gay men called Genesis, announce that they now have openings in their ongoing group.

"The purpose of the group," says Eaton, "is to provide a safe and nurturing place where Gay men can openly share their concerns and feel supported by others. Recently, our group has been exploring new, more nourishing and caring ways of relating to men; ways which significantly reduce the high levels of stress and feelings of loneliness which are resulting from the AIDS epidemic."

Adds Tiller, "We see Genesis as a mixture of a support group, a therapy group, and a growth group. Each week, we draw upon both traditional and holistic perspectives to accommodate the unique needs of each individual as well as the collective needs of the group."

For more details, call Adrian at 861-2385 or Scott at 564-1742. ■

Sex & AIDS Aired on Lamble Show

Living on the edge — sex in the age of AIDS is the theme for most of this weekend's editions of The David Lamble Talk Show heard Saturday and Sunday from 7:05 to 10 p.m. on KGO-FM (FM 104). Saturday night live from 8:05 to 10 p.m. AIDS patient Marty Cox describes the change wrought in his life by AIDS. Marty used to be an independent businessman whose lifestyle included a lot of overtime in the sexual fast lane. Today Marty often sleeps 20 hours a day and his sexual lifestyle is pretty much confined to the jack-off circuit. From 7:05 to 8 p.m.

Sunday night from 7:05 to 9 p.m. Hal Slate, owner of the Caldron, returns to discuss the post-AIDS style in his South of Market sex club. Slate will answer questions from listeners at 928-0104. The program will cover the recent rumblings from city government about the need to more carefully regulate the Gay bathhouse/sex club scene. ■

Doctors Urged to Report AIDS Cases

Doctors in San Francisco and Los Angeles have been urged to report all AIDS cases to their city health departments. The April issue of the *SF Medical Society's* magazine asked 2,000 member doctors to report all cases, while in Los Angeles 22,000 physicians and health professionals were mailed similar letters in mid-May. The stepped-up campaign on reporting in San Francisco was initiated by Dr. Mervyn Silverman, city health director.

Continuing research and analysis of AIDS requires extensive nationwide reporting to central offices. The most recent breakdown by national Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta shows 81 reported cases in Los Angeles County among 298 reported in the state. The largest number of reported cases is in San Francisco Bay Area which has 249, of which 72 are dead. Nationwide, the estimate is at 1,450, of which 558 are dead.

One of the reasons there has been limited reporting of California AIDS cases in the past is that not all physicians are yet aware of a state directive making AIDS a legally reportable disease. Some are reluctant to fill out the detailed 4-page report being requested on the patient's health history, lab tests and social/sexual history. ■

Gay College Gets Land

Southern California's *Update* reports the Erickson Foundation's decision to give a three and a half acre site to the Los Angeles One Inc., the 31 year old institution that includes the One Institute Graduate School of Homophile Studies.

The Erickson Foundation, which has been a supporter of One since 1964, has gifted One with the three buildings on the property that once belonged to the Millbank and Morgan families. The largest of these, a 1914 replica of the Tournament of Roses House in Pasadena, will house One's graduate school and its library.

Rev. Dwain Houser, graduate school chancellor, said seven students are currently pursuing master's and doctor's degrees. ■

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GUEST COLUMN

Church Needs Pro-Gay Bishop

EDITOR'S NOTE: The following letter was submitted to the Bay Area Reporter by the Episcopal Rev. Robert Cromey to do with as we saw fit. We have chosen to publish it as a guest column because it pertains to an issue that has been much discussed over the last six months. Cromey was scheduled to "bless" a Gay male couple's union April 2 but was forced to cancel when his bishop heard about it.

To: The Bishop of California, William Swing
From: Robert W. Cromey, Rector of Trinity Church, S.F.
Re: Your letter of 28 April 1983

I am so bored with challenging the Church's discrimination against Gay people. I have been doing this since 1964 when I preached a sermon at Grace Cathedral advocating recognition of homosexual human beings in our midst. I'm so bored with reminding Church leaders not to discriminate, not to dehumanize Gays. Yet I'll not luxuriate in the sloth that follows from boredom and fail to remind my brothers and sisters of the Church of our duty.

The Word became flesh. Those fleshy folks out there are invested with God. It is my duty to love and care for those God-filled Gays, to be sure they are treated humanly, not discriminated against by bad laws, canons, and resolutions keeping them from ordination and blessed relationships.

You invoke the Convention resolution asserting that Christian marriage is for heterosexuals. You use that to prevent either homosexual weddings or blessings of a relationship. That is clearly a bad and discriminating resolution, canon, or law. It

should be disobeyed. Laws forcing Blacks to ride in the back of the bus were bad laws. They were disobeyed, then finally revoked. Law follows action. No one is going to change equally discriminatory laws against Gays without action first. Bad laws need to be disobeyed so they can be changed or revoked.

The Church needs a Bishop who is an advocate for Gays, rather than one who defends the Biblical prerogatives of heterosexuality — whatever that means. We need a Bishop who regards Gays as equals; a Bishop who ordains Gays because they are God-called priestly persons; a Bishop who sees same-sex couples as people of God whose relationship needs the love, support, and blessing of the Christian community; a Bishop who assists the laws of the Church and State to change to assure homosexuals full and equal status with everyone else in the Church and State. The Church needs an advocate Bishop, one who calls the Church and society to change the underlying assumptions of bigotry. It is not enough to have Bishops who are patronizing pastors of Gays who "need help." It is not enough to have Bishops who will declare war directly on the oppressors of Gays. It should be a gay, happy,

cheerful, and relentless war of advocacy.

I'm glad that you made clear on the domestic partnerships issue that you acted alone. I hoped you had consulted the Gay community as exemplified by people from the Parsonage and Integrity, San Francisco. You saw fit to make a statement on domestic partnerships in the homosexual community without consultation with members of it. I had assumed you had consulted with those concerned before making a public statement which affected the lives of many members of Trinity Church as well as many Gay people in the city and county of San Francisco and the Bay Area.

I do agree with you that domestic partnerships and marriage are thought of interchangeably by some people. That question must be seriously discussed and wrestled with, particularly in the religious and legal community. I tend to think it is much less of a problem than people would think. I think it is seen as a problem as more a reflection of middle-class morality than a question of the nature of human relationships. People who live together and make vows together, Gay or straight, become an instant institution. They have rights, responsibilities, and agreements between them which did not exist before, when they acted solely as individuals. There are certain legal contracts that can be drawn up between Gay people who live together that are institutional in their very nature. I don't see what the problem is. One can compare marriage as an institution or Gay relationships as an institution.

The basic intent of the legislation [Britt's domestic partners bill] was to let Gay partners have medical information about their

loved ones who were in the hospital, and to have rights to visit them in prison, and rights to certain medical and dental benefits. Far from being a bureaucratic nightmare and a financial disaster, I see it as just one more opportunity for people to be human with each other and get some benefits from the society as a whole on the basis of their mutual commitment.

I note that while the legislation was voted down, the essential points have already been put into effect in the city hospitals and prisons just by administrative order of the mayor.

Concerning the blessing of the relationship between two men at Trinity Church on 2 April 1983, I would also like to make some comments. In January of 1983 I preached a sermon and issued a press statement which I sent to you. It was not picked up by the press, nor did you respond. A month later I wrote you a note after I heard you were upset by my statement. I got no response to that. When the two young men sent 150 invitations to the blessing of their relationship, they rather stupidly, by their own admission, sent out twenty-five partially-printed invitations that did use the word "wedding." Some anonymous person sent that to Rollie Jones, who in turn sent it to your office without the courtesy of talking to me about it. I instructed the two men that the event was not a marriage or a wedding; it was to be the blessing of a relationship. They alone are responsible for the use of the word "wedding."

I am glad that the Diocesan liturgical renewal commission will make a study of same-sex relationships and make a report to you. In light of that, I would like to request that a list of the members of that commission be made available to all of the clergy of the Diocese. It does not seem to appear in the 1982-83 Directory of the Diocese of California. I would also like to see that it is clear that on that committee are openly Gay men and women, clergy and lay, people with some psychological and sociological know-how, as well as liturgical sense. I would also like to see what charge you have given the committee, and the timetable of when we might expect their report.

In a 26-year ministry in the Church, I know that commissions can bog down, meet once a month, and finally get around to issuing a report that then indeed may sit around the Diocesan office before being published to the clergy and laity of the Diocese. I really would like that not to happen. I think same-sex couples have a right to know what our Diocesan thinking is on this matter as quickly as possible. There's no reason why such a report could not be ready in three months.

You refer several times to people at the Parsonage as the essential contact you have with the homophile community. I have enormous respect for all of the people that I know at the Parsonage. Jim Fooks and Bernard Mayes are long-term friends. But the Parsonage does not represent the whole homosexual community, neither does Integrity, the group of Gay people who happen to attend Trinity Church, or any other parish in the city. I would like to suggest that since you have paid particular attention to the Parsonage, they would have a natural bias toward being friendly with you and perhaps not challenge your thinking in a way that might move you to an even deeper understanding of the problems and opportunities of the homophile community.

You say "I will not tolerate the clergy usurping the authority that is not theirs..." I contend that I as a priest of the Church

have a right to bless anybody or anything that I wish as part of my priestly function. Giving a blessing to two people who live together and who are making vows and promises to each other is very clearly within my authority. We priests have been asked to bless all kinds of things, from bombs and bombers, to tarantulas and outrageously inappropriate heterosexual marriages in public and in private. I do not intend to have my authority as a priest usurped by a Bishop or anyone else telling me who I may or may not bless. It is a scandal to humans that priests may bless inanimate objects and events, but not homosexual human beings.

Somewhere in the newspaper I read that the service which I submitted to you was "merely a rewrite of the Marriage Office." In planning the blessing of same-sex couples where should I have started? At the Burial Office? The Marriage Office gives us some of the best thinking and liturgical words for couples to share the best of their vows and promises to each other. In the blessing for same-sex couples the Marriage Office seems to be a very good place to get ideas and to set the focus for the blessing.

No matter what we say about blessings or marriages, we must always face the great Catholic sacramental principle. In the sacrament of marriage, it is the two people who are the officers in the wedding. They are the ministers of the sacrament. On the one hand in the blessing of a same-sex couple, it is the couple who are "doing it" to each other, and that the clergy are merely standing around saying the odd prayer over them. On the other hand, since it is not a marriage, the priest is absolutely necessary to be there because it is the priest who gives the blessing. So our Catholic theology can give us a number of approaches and routes to handling this issue.

I think it is far less thorny than we make it to be. My personal belief is that it should be left in the hands of the individual clergy and couples to be worked out as seems best on the local level.

Now I want to deal with the appendices from the Journal of General Convention of 1979. I think that the opening statement about the Old and New Testaments being clear that humanity is incomplete without man and woman is absurd. That may be the interpretation of middle-class moral theologians who happen to be married in their reading of the Old and New Testaments. The notion that two shall become one is a poetic one, not a canonical one; it is a sexual one, not a theological one. One of the great dangers in marriage is that a man will seek to be complete by marrying a woman, and a woman will seek to be completed by marrying a man. The most healthy view is that when a man or a woman feels healthy and whole in themselves, then they are fit to be married, and not until. I suspect that we could juggle Scripture aplenty to justify that one, too.

What about celibates? Are they not whole persons because they are not married? I think not. How about single men and women who choose not to marry, or who have not found a suitable partner? Are they not whole because they are not married? How about widows and widowers who choose not to remarry? Are they not whole persons?

How about people who are compulsively married in consecutive polygamy? They are married. Are they whole persons? How about the wretchedly married who stay together for the kids? Are they whole?

How about the sexually active
(Continued on next page)

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Former Congressman to Head Special AIDS Lobby

The Gay Rights National Lobby has announced that former Congressman Jim Corman will head a special AIDS Lobbying Task Force. The task force is expected to significantly assist the short-staffed Lobby in dealing with the many AIDS-related measures on Capitol Hill, as well as bringing considerable extra clout to GRNL's AIDS lobbying efforts. Joining former Rep. Corman are Judy Goldsmith, the President of the National Organization for Women (NOW) and Dan Bradley, the former President of the national Legal Services Corporation. Allan Jonas, the former President of the American Cancer Society, has agreed to serve as a Special Advisor to GRNL on its AIDS efforts. GRNL's Executive Director,



Jim Corman

Steve Endean, indicated that other prominent community leaders may also soon join the AIDS Task Force.

Rep. Corman, who represented the San Fernando (CA) Valley for 20 years, can be expected to substantially enhance GRNL's Capitol Hill AIDS efforts. During his time in Congress, Corman was a leading advocate of both Civil Rights and national health insurance. During his last four years in Congress, he served as Chair of the influential Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee (the House Democrat's campaign funding group). Since leaving Congress, he has become a partner in the law firm of Charles Manatt (Chair of the Democratic National Party) and now spends extensive time lobbying Capitol Hill.

"We are extremely fortunate to have someone of Congressman Corman's stature, experience, and ability playing a leading role for us on AIDS," commented Steve Endean. Former Members of Congress are often the most sought-after lobbyists because of the relationships they build while in Congress and because of their knowledge of the Hill. "We're extraordinarily blessed that his commitment to this issue has led him to play this key role," said Endean.

The National Organization for Women (NOW) has agreed to put its full clout into the AIDS

to justify heterosexual biases and keep faggots in their place.

Whatever wholeness a person has is imperfect, emerging and developing. Marriages do not make people whole. Marriage is a bedroom of life, death, passion, pain, dialogue, quiet, strength, weakness, absurdity, laughter, and fleeting glimpses of wholeness, glaring cries of sin, glorious opportunities for forgiveness and love. All of that happens for Gays, straights, single and married. ♡

I want to say one final thing about the use of the news media for the airing of Church business. The news media is the best reflection of the Church's relevance. The news media will pick up and discuss what people are interested in and what will sell newspapers. When the Church truly grapples with issues that get reported and dealt with in the newspapers, we know that we're touching on the issues that really affect people in our society.

I will happily continue to use the media in whatever way I can to set forth my ideas and thinking and to challenge and confront the leadership of the Church where they perpetuate injustice and ignorance. I believe the media is one of God's gifts to us, as well as something protected, along with the separation of Church and State and the Freedom of Religion, in the Constitution of the United States. I think there are three ways to observe success in the Church. They are not the only ways, but three very good gauges. They are how many people are coming, how much money is coming in, and how much attention does the news media pay to what the Church does. I think they're good criteria for the Christian witness in the times in which we live.

All good wishes. ■

R.W. Cromeo

P.S. There is absolutely no historical or Scriptural evidence that Jesus was heterosexual.

Gay Campaign Fund Appoints Director

The Human Rights Campaign Fund, the national pro-Gay civil rights political action committee, today announced the appointment of Vic Basile, a Washington, D.C.-based Gay activist and labor union organizer, as the Executive Director. The Campaign Fund, in its first major elections in '82, raised over \$600,000 and won an extraordinary 81% of the Congressional races it entered.

Basile will be responsible for the overall operation of the Campaign Fund, including fundraising, media and public relations, staff supervision, and the critical oversight of the Campaign Fund's City Committees. Relations with other PACs and with candidates will continue to be supervised by HRCF's Treasurer, Steve Endean, who supervised the overall operation of the Campaign Fund until Basile's appointment.

The selection comes as a result of an extensive nationwide search process, with nearly one hundred resumes submitted to the seven member Search Committee. Peter Fenn, a non-Gay

member of the Committee who had been with Democrats for the '80s, said "The search process was the most open, exhaustive and unbiased that I've ever been involved with. We had a wealth of qualified candidates, and the Campaign Fund is fortunate to have had so many first-rate applicants."

Basile had been deeply involved in the labor movement and had helped lead the successful effort to gain endorsement of the American Federation of State,



Vic Basile

fight with their national President, Judy Goldsmith serving on GRNL's special AIDS Task Force. With their strong grassroots constituency and important political involvement, NOW's support and participation is seen by many as being very important.

Joining Corman and Goldsmith is Dan Bradley, the former President of the Legal Services Corporation, who has come out publicly as a Gay man. When he headed the embattled Legal Services program, he mastermind-

ed one of the strongest lobbying efforts in recent memory to save legal aid for the poor against attacks by the Reagan Administration and the New Right. The contacts he made in the successful effort are expected to help a great deal on GRNL's Capitol Hill AIDS lobbying campaign.

The special AIDS Task Force is expected to complement the work of GRNL's staff through its ongoing AIDS Project. Endean stressed the special AIDS Task Force very likely will be expanded to include other notable

County and Municipal Employees for local, state and federal Gay civil rights legislation. He currently serves as Vice President of Gay Activists Alliance of D.C., and as labor liaison for both Gay Rights National Lobby and National Gay Task Force.

"HRCF was enormously successful in 1982 and I believe its impact can and will be even greater in 1984. That effort will not be easy, but with the help of our unusually talented staff and Board, I expect the Campaign Fund will achieve its ambitious goals," said Basile.

Newly elected Co-Chair of HRCF, Dan Bradley, the former President of the Legal Services Corporation whose coming out made national news, called Basile "the right person for the tremendous task facing the community."

Endean, who is also Executive Director of the Gay Rights National Lobby, praised Basile, saying, "Vic has excellent organizing skills, as demonstrated by his efforts to secure labor support for Gay civil rights."

people.

Anyone wishing to contribute support to GRNL's AIDS Project, its AIDS Special Task Force or other programs of GRNL should write: GRNL, P.O. Box 1892, Washington, D.C. 20013, or call (202) 546-1801. ■

FIGHT PARASITES!
Don't be tongue in cheek.

BISHOP

(Continued from previous page)

teenagers? Are they not whole? How about sexually active adults who are not married? Are they whole if they are in their sixties? or fifties? or forties, thirties, twenties, or teens? Who knows?

You go on to quote "Homosexual unions witness to incompleteness." The writer of that sentence obviously knows little about homosexual relationships, the dignity and affection and love that many homosexual unions bear and the completeness which is available in homosexual individuals and unions.

The great Christian witness to completeness is not marriage. It is Jesus. Jesus was a single person. He is the incarnate one. He is completed in his relationship to his own being and to God. Completeness comes for the Christian person in the receiving of the sacraments of bread and wine in Holy Communion and the presence of Christ. In that completeness, a Christian human being can turn around and find a good relationship with another human being, a joyous one. But to expect marriage to complete a person is to expect marriage to do far more than it is capable of doing, given the whole human condition.

We have got to raise the level of theological and ethical thinking about marriage, same-sex unions, and completeness above conventional wisdom and morality, into the meaning of the Incarnation and the nature of human beings. It must not reflect the middle-class heterosexual biases of resolutions written in haste in smoke-filled hotel rooms at General Conventions alone.

But the notion of wholeness in itself is absurd. No one is whole, healthy. In the Church we are not called to be whole. We are called to be repentant. We know we are sinners, radically imperfect. We are called to ask for forgiveness. Wholeness is a juicy, pop-psychology term bought by the Conventions of the Church

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POLITICS AND PEOPLE

Boxer Gets Credit for AIDS Funding

WAYNE FRIDAY



The Sala Burton for Congress committee is sponsoring a vote-by-mail campaign, much like the highly successful one used by the Feinstein forces in the recent recall effort; the obvious goal of the Burton people is to get the required 51% on June 21, thereby avoiding a run-off election. • Demo presidential candidate Gary Hart, a senator from Colorado, is in town this week seeking support for his lagging national campaign; when Hart appeared recently at the MECLA dinner in L.A., he failed to excite many of the Gays in attendance with his lukewarm human rights speech, only mentioning the word "Gay" once and failing to disclose whether or not he will co-sponsor the Senate's Gay employment bill, although he was pointedly asked about the bill. Meanwhile, Cranston watchers are more hopeful now that Hart's sagging campaign will result in his withdrawal from the race soon after this summer's scheduled Wisconsin Democratic presidential straw poll, thereby giving the California favorite son a clear field at the national Gay and Lesbian vote.

Craig Claiborne, famed N.Y. Times food critic who came out of the closet in his latest best-selling book, coordinated all of the food menus for the recent world Economic Summit in Williamsburg, Virginia. (Out of the closet and into the kitchen, so eat your heart out, Julia!) • Wisconsin state representative David Clarenbach, author of that state's Gay employment law, has now successfully authored a consenting adults bill that was signed by Democratic Governor Anthony Earle; the Clarenbach legislation makes Wisconsin the 27th state in the union to legalize consensual Gay sex between adults over the age of 18. Meanwhile, in Texas a federal court earlier ruled striking down that state's sodomy law and that ruling is now under appeal. In Hartford, CT, where the state Senate had passed a Gay employment bill recently by a 20-15 vote, the state House of Representatives rejected the legislation this week by a 92-49 vote; Gay and Lesbian activists in the Connecticut capital are blaming the defeat on House Speaker Irving Stoberg, a New Haven Democrat, and are threatening to form a political action committee to raise funds to defeat the bill's opponents in the state's 1984 legislative elections.

Gay and Lesbian activists across California are hailing San Francisco Congresswoman Barbara Boxer for her role in securing \$12 million AIDS funding from



Rep. Barbara Boxer (Photo: Rink)

the federal government last week; Boxer was the key in this funding and deserves all the praise she gets. Two of our supposed liberal friends in the House, Pete Stark of Oakland and Ron Dellums of Berkeley, both Democrats, voted against the \$12 million AIDS appropriations last week by not supporting the \$4.8 billion House bill. Both claimed that funding for the Pershing 2 missile money, included in the total appropriations, was the reason for their no votes.

The California State Supreme Court ruled last Thursday that it is "cruel and unusual punishment" to require people convicted of lewd conduct in this state to register with local police agencies as sex offenders; the Supreme Court justices, in a 5 to 2 decision, struck down the registration requirement stating that "registration imposes a life-long stigma on persons who have committed little more than a sexual indiscretion, involving no violence." The majority opinion was written by senior Justice Stanley Mosk of San Francisco, who noted that registration makes offenders' names, photographs, fingerprints, and other information permanently available to police authorities and that it could mandate frequent appearances by offenders in subsequent state or local police lineups.

Leonard Matlovich planning a comeback? According to an interview in the *Oakland Tribune* this week, the former Air Force sergeant and would-be San Francisco supervisor, now the owner of a pizza parlor in Guerneville, is threatening to lead a mass demonstration in Washington for AIDS funding before Congress goes into session in September. Matlovich, asked how he could lead a national campaign from sleepy Guerneville, humbly replied: "It comes down to sacrifice; if the sacrifice is that I have to give up my restaurant, then this what I am going to have to wrestle with."

One of the most intense debates between two members broke out last week on the floor of the U.S. Senate when Massachusetts' Paul Tsongas (D) rose to explain to fellow members his new ERA legislation and was immediately cross-examined by the Right Wing's Orrin Hatch (R) of Utah as to the ERA's supposed impact on homosexuality and homosexual marriages. Hatch, a darling of the Moral Majority, attacked ERA and questioned what it will do for women and the nation from every conceivable reactionary

viewpoint, and political observers saw this as a beginning of a major strategy by the Right Wing to block ERA passage in this session by bringing in the irrelevant arguments surrounding homosexuality.

The prospect of a fast-approaching world in which parents can choose the sex of their expected offspring was the subject of a meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. A group of scientists meeting in Detroit worried last week about the possibilities and the dangers of choosing the sex of yet unborn children. One speaker warned that some societies may become predominantly male because "more parents tend to prefer boys to girls, an imbalance that could lead to more war, more violence, and more homosexuality." • Gina Moscone received one of the few standing ovations at last week's Milk Club dinner, but few people in the large crowd knew that the widow of the former mayor actually saved the party and averted a possible disaster when she quickly doused out a burning napkin with a bottle of wine at the Bay Area Reporter's table.

The Sunday Examiner came out with a lead editorial urging the federal government to "Spare Nothing to Conquer AIDS;" meanwhile, the *Chron's* conservative columnist Abe Mellinkoff



Assemblyman Art Agnos (Photo: Rink)

apparently takes the view that as long as the general public is not apt to catch the dreaded disease, there is no reason to be alarmed, saying that "as of now, the only danger to the general public is if infected blood should be used in a transfusion." Mellinkoff apparently feels that as long as the straight community is not apt to contract AIDS, there is no real reason to give a damn about the Gay community. • Senator Alan Cranston, though busy running for president, is writing a book to be titled *Inside the Politburo*, the 12-member group that runs the Soviet Union. • State Senator Milton Marks was one of five votes in favor of SB814, the so-called transsexual bill but, as usual, John Foran didn't bother to vote (where is this guy Foran when we need him anyway, and why does he always manage to avoid controversial votes?). • In Sacramento everyone is waiting to see how successful Assemblyman Art Agnos will be in getting his AB-1 legislation through the legislature and to the governor's desk; Agnos' aides tell me he is "cautiously optimistic." ■

"Dial-A-Gay-Atheist"

The San Francisco Chapter of the Gay Atheist League of America is pleased to announce a new educational service called "Dial-A-Gay-Atheist." By dialing 431-X-G-O-D, callers can hear a recorded message regarding homosexuality and rational thinking.

"Dial-A-Gay-Atheist" offers an alternative to the massive amount of religious proselytizing in our society. ■



Sen. John Foran (Photo: Rink)

Milk Club Hosts Jubilant Dinner

Boxer and Burton Receive Acclaim

by Wayne Friday

A sold-out Harvey Milk Gay Democratic Club dinner, held annually to commemorate the birthday of the late Harvey Milk and attended by 500 of the political faithful, gave a near hero's welcome to Congresswoman Barbara Boxer, who was just off a plane from Washington, D.C. Boxer played a leading role in helping to get \$12 million in AIDS research money through Congress last week. An equally warm reception was given to Sala Burton, who is a candidate for her late husband's congressional seat.

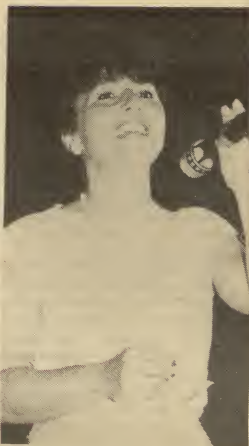
At the dinner last Thursday held at Kezar Pavilion, Boxer and Burton both praised the Milk Club, in particular, and the Gay community, in general, for their support and pledged to continue to work for AIDS funding as one of their major goals in Congress. Boxer had the Milk Club's support in her Democratic primary battle last year, and the dinner crowd was clearly with the new congresswoman as they gave her ovation after ovation.

East Bay Congressman George Miller was billed as the guest speaker of the evening, but his staff claimed he missed his plane from the capital and was a no-show. The other guest of honor, Sala Burton, was obviously pleased with her welcome, which included three standing ovations. The Milk Club was probably the first political organization in the city to endorse Burton's candidacy in the special June 21 election. The dinner crowd, in a festive mood after an above-average political meal in the converted basketball arena, also gave standing ovations to Gina Moscone, former Milk Club president Glenn Craig, and former Milk Club president Bill Kraus, the Gay aide to the late Phil Burton.

One of the other largest hands of the evening went to Supervisors John Molinari and Harry Britt for their sponsorship of the successful effort to get \$2 million in city AIDS funding. Britt was praised as an invaluable representative to the Lesbian and Gay

community, while Molinari was called a "non-Gay man who has always responded when Gay people needed him." The audience, which paid \$35 per person for the dinner, included many politicians and Gay leaders, as at past such dinners, but was particularly notable for its large labor contingent, including the heads of many of the city's largest unions. Other tables were occupied by environmentalist and minority groups, including many Asians and the Black Leadership Forum.

The showing of part of Rob Epstein's upcoming film, *Out of Order*, about the career and the death of Harvey Milk and the riot that followed the Dan White verdict, was clearly the most moving part of the evening and some of Milk's friends wept openly while viewing the film. But the general tone of the evening, set by club president Carole Migden in her remarks to the crowd, was almost one of celebration. "You had to be impressed by this dinner," said one well-known political observer; "clearly this club has become a power in the San Francisco political community." The Milk Club was the major political group to support the recent recall effort of Mayor Dianne Feinstein and most City Hall watchers would agree that the club is, at least temporarily, out of favor with the mayor and her supporters. Feinstein did not attend the dinner, nor did the leadership of the Toklas Demo Club, a more conservative and older Gay



Rep. Barbara Boxer (Photo: Rink)

political club, often thought to be the Milk Club's organizational rival.

The subject of AIDS dominated part of the evening as it seems to dominate everything of late. But it was one of the first times people seemed to feel good about what was said. Former Milk president and Phil Burton aide Bill Kraus, who has spent the last year in Burton's office working almost full-time to get AIDS funding, was the first to introduce the subject at the dinner, saying, "After a terrible year in which the federal government turned its back on us when we asked it for the help which only it can provide, this week we seem to have turned a corner." To someone who had spent a frustrating year's work, Kraus told the dinner crowd that Congress's passage last week of \$12 million in AIDS funding "seems like a miracle." Both Congresswoman Boxer and candidate Sala Burton spoke at length about AIDS, and in an extraordinarily personal tribute, Burton described at length the AIDS work of Kraus in her late husband's office.

"Phillip gave him the tools, but it was Bill himself who used them; he never stopped talking about AIDS, to Phillip, and to me, and he went back to Washington to make the people back there listen and understand," Burton said. Sala Burton then made a strong pitch for her own candidacy in the upcoming June 21 election, thanking the Gay community for its support and promising to fight for Gay rights and against the Reagan administration "if you send me back to Washington." Other than Molinari and Britt, other political dignitaries seen at the dinner included Supervisors Silver, Maher, Hongisto, Kennedy, and Walker; Sheriff Mike Hennessey; District Attorney Arlo Smith; Public Defender Jeff Brown; and numerous judges and city commissioners.



Bay Area Reporter staff and friends at the Milk Club dinner. (Photo: Rink)

Gay Health Conference Slated for June in Denver

Over 600 Lesbian and Gay healthworkers are expected to arrive in Denver for the Fifth National Lesbian/Gay Health Conference on June 9-12. The Conference will offer concurrent seminars and workshops on all aspects of Lesbian and Gay health including Gays' participation in health, health research, and health politics. It will be held at downtown Denver's Executive Tower Inn and will also include the Second National Forum on Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS).

This year marks the first that the National Gay Health Educa-

tion Foundation, Gay and Lesbian Health Alliance of Denver, and the American Association of Physicians for Human Rights join forces to sponsor this Conference.

The Second National Forum on AIDS will assume that its healthworker participants are up-to-date on medical issues of AIDS. The Forum will focus on making recommendations about risk-reduction, medical therapies, and political action plans. It will take place in conjunction with the Conference on Thursday and Friday, June 9 & 10.

All healthworkers concerned with services by and for Lesbians

and Gay men are invited to submit papers, workshop and panel discussion ideas to be presented at the Conference to the National Gay Health Education Foundation, Inc., c/o co-chairpersons Fran Miller and Dan Pfeffer, 5938 Chabot, Oakland, CA 94618. The deadline for a one-page narrative and/or topical outline is March 31.

General admission to the Conference is \$50 with special discounts to students, senior citizens, and those who will stay at the Executive Tower Inn. For further registration information, contact Dan or Fran at the above address.

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WOMEN'S	Reg.	Our Price
Garrett Sportswear	\$ 50- 140	\$20.00- 75.00
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Ladies Sweaters 100% Cotton	\$ 14- 38	\$10.00- 28.00
Made In The Shade Pants	\$ 26- 40	\$19.00- 29.00
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AIDS Survey

(Continued from page 1)

couples as well as from mailing lists of Gay organizations and included referrals from early respondents.

2,350 men were handed questionnaires as they left Gay bars between the hours of 8:00 p.m. and 1:00 a.m. The verbal instructions were to take the form home, fill it out, and mail it back in a stamped, pre-addressed envelope. The areas selected for sampling were representative of a cross-section of San Francisco Gay bars, including Castro, Fol-

portunity for respondents to express some of their reactions, using the vehicle of the questionnaire as a vent. This explanation is reinforced by the handwritten additions to the backs of questionnaires returned by about one-third of the sample. These expressed varying concerns, theories about transmission, and personal disclosures in response to the disease. Such comments provide another indication as to how profoundly AIDS is influencing the social and emotional adaptation of the Gay community as represented by this sample.

"Bathhouses are the places where bacteria develop. It's in the air."

som, Polk, and Pacific Heights neighborhoods.

3,300 questionnaires were distributed between 10:00 p.m. and 2:00 a.m. at the baths. As men left six popular bathhouses in San Francisco, they were asked to volunteer and given the same instructions as the bar sample.

The rate of walk-aways, or men who refused to accept the questionnaires, was twice as high for the baths (21%) as for the bars (11%). The sidewalks outside the bathhouses are less well-lit than outside the bars, which may indicate that men emerging from bathhouses are more suspicious of strangers on the street. In fact, most of those who did refuse questionnaires walked rapidly away. An explanation the researchers can offer for a higher percentage of bathhouse refusals is a lack of motivation to change behavior on the part of this group, resulting in a higher level of denial, and thus an unwillingness to cooperate with researchers in their endeavor. The explanation is substantiated below when this group is compared with other respondents on the significant measures within the survey itself.

The return rate of questionnaires was much higher than normally expected for survey research. As of April 1, 600 men, or 60%, had returned it through the mail. Another 40 sent them back later, but were not included in the initial data analysis.

The breakdown of returns was as follows: 204 of the 350 men in couples (58%), 213 of the 350 men sampled outside bars (61%), and 183 of the 300 bathgoers (61%) returned the questionnaires. This high rate of return is explained by the growing level of concern, interest and alarm about AIDS in the community in the months up to April, when the questionnaire was administered, and the op-

Regarding general health, the average number of work days missed last year was six. Seven (1%) had been diagnosed as having AIDS; 142 (24%) had had an attack of herpes simplex; 118 (20%) had had Hepatitis A; 185 (31%) had contracted Hepatitis B; 24 (4%) knew that they had had hepatitis in the past, but did not know which type. Nine of the men were chronic hepatitis carriers.

An obviously health-concerned group, 361 respondents had visited their physicians in the first quarter of 1983, and 159 in the last six months of 1982. Only 50 men in the entire sample had not visited a doctor within the last year. Eight percent, or 50 men, are currently in psychotherapy. Since they have found out about AIDS, 27% of the respondents reported seeing their physicians more often.

DEMOGRAPHICS

This sample of sexually active Gay men displays various social and ethnic characteristics as follows:

By occupation, 54% are professionals, 16% clerical, 11% skilled manual labor, 13% retired, and 2% unemployed. Four percent cited no occupation.

By residency, 83% of the respondents are from the Bay Area, 13% from other Bay Area counties, and 4% from outside

"On the one hand, I'm concerned about going to bed with anyone; on the other I refuse to live in a cocoon."

the Bay Area. These last respondents were excluded from statistical analysis. Mean length of residence is 8.7 years.

Racially, 84% are white, 3% black, 5% Hispanic, 3% Asian, and 5% other. Three percent left this item blank. The mean income is \$23,000 per year. The age range is from 18 to 67 years, with the mean at 35 years.

With respect to relationships, interesting data emerges. Three hundred and seventy six, or 63% of the sample, are currently in a primary relationship which has lasted six months or more where the partners have sex together the majority of the time. Of these 376 men, 82, or 22%, are "monogamous". Four hundred and fifty four, or 76% of the sample, reported having had one or more six-month relationships over the past five years. The mean length of all relationships listed by the respondents is 3.2 years. Of the men in relationships, the average number of sexual encounters per month with their partner is 10 times, or about once every three days. For the non-monogamous relationships, average number of outside sexual contacts per month was found to be four, or about once per week.

PARTNER CHANGES

Respondents were asked whether they had changed their selection of sexual partners in the following ways since finding out about AIDS:

1. Having sex with men that they know from previous encounters; 30% said yes.

2. Getting to know partners' sexual and health habits before having sex with them; 20% responded affirmatively.

3. Serial monogamy, or having a series of sexual encounters with one man before moving on to another; 20% said yes.

Twenty-six percent of the respondents cited other changes in selection of their partners and listed a variety of adaptive strategies, such as:

Sex less often; Asking for physical contact and jacking off; Sleeping with straights and bisexuals only; Joining introduction services; Avoiding people who look unhealthy; Meeting people introduced by friends or at parties; Secondary boyfriends to the primary relationship; No sex with Americans, only sex in Europe; Invite people to come home, making sex less anonymous; Making a relationship more monogamous; Only having sex with my lover and other monogamous couples we trust in a four-way situation; Dating prior to sex; Celibacy; Considering abstaining from sex;

Analysis of these varying strategies revealed to the researchers three major shifts in types of partner selection. First, some people were reducing the number of contacts overall and increasing the frequency of sex with known partners. Secondly, some were more attentive to surface characteristics of their partners that might provide reassurance that they are not AIDS carriers (e.g., European, healthy-looking, straight).

Many of these attributes were found by the researchers to be based on erroneous assumptions or colored by respondents' preferences and prejudices. In many cases, they were less an adaptive response to AIDS than a response to internal fears or pressures or were abstracted from the

Changes In Specific Sexual Behavior With New or Anonymous Contacts Since Respondent First Found Out About AIDS:

	Never Did	Stopped	Less	Same	More
French kissing	6%	6%	32%	54%	2%
Rimming new contact	46%	28%	25%	11%	—
Getting rimmed by new contact	25%	17%	24%	29%	1%
Anal intercourse	20%	15%	28%	33%	3%
Active anal intercourse	11%	9%	29%	45%	6%
Sucking new contact	6%	3%	30%	55%	4%
Getting sucked	2%	3%	15%	71%	9%
Mutual masturbation	11%	2%	5%	54%	28%
Fisting	80%	6%	6%	6%	2%
Water sports	78%	6%	8%	7%	1%

publicity about AIDS. Finally, some respondents reacted by curbing the level of their sexual activity overall, and in some cases have inhibited sexual impulses altogether.

RISK GROUPS

The researchers consulted with medical and epidemiological researchers regarding AIDS transmission through sexual activity. One current theory is that the infective agent for AIDS is transmitted through exchange of body fluids. The following types of sexual behavior which have a greater possibility of body fluid exchange are designed as high risk.

With New Or Anonymous Contacts: French kissing, active oral-anal contact — rimming, active oral-genital contact — sucking, anal intercourse — receptive, fisting, and water sports. Some researchers also believe that within primary relationships, fisting, water sports, and active rimming were also high risk behavior, because of the shock to the immunological system and the possible transmission of residual infective agents from the anal tract to the blood stream.

Based on these guidelines, the researchers computed the number of men who fit into four groups of varying risks. These groups are not mutually exclusive.

1. No Risk: For the entire sample of 600 men, 54 or 9% were found to not engage in any

"As a Black, I am concerned about AIDS but not unduly stressed. These diseases generally do not appear to me to affect my people to the degree they hit whites."

risk behavior. Thirty-seven of these men were in monogamous relationships and 17 had stopped or never engaged in any of the risk behaviors with new or anonymous contacts or in their primary relationships.

2. Heightened Risk: 41 or 7% of the men in our sample had increased the frequency of at least one high risk behavior since they had found out about AIDS. A closer look showed that the majority of the increases were in receptive anal intercourse and sucking with new contacts. This may be a compensatory response to decreases in other high risk behaviors. The mean age of this group is lower than the mean for the entire sample, most falling in the 18 to 29 year old age group. These respondents may be increasing high risk behaviors out of ignorance, disregard, or confusion about health guidelines, or by shifting from one risk behavior to another.

3. Risk Reducers: 177 or 30% of the sample had stopped or reduced at least one high risk behavior without an increase in any other high risk behavior since finding out about AIDS.

4. Respondents Still At Risk: 372 or 62% of the men in the sample continued to engage at the same frequency or more since they found out about AIDS in at least one high risk behavior with new or anonymous contacts.

If AIDS transmission occurs through the exchange of body

fluids, an elimination of the behaviors cited above places a man at lower risk for contracting the disease. The sample of 600 men shows an attempt at reduction of some of the behaviors by 30%; however, an alarming number of at least some form of high risk behavior in the majority (62%) of the respondents persists.

IMPACT

Although a complete factor analysis of all items is not ready for inclusion in this article, it is possible to make the following assertions about the impact of AIDS on the psychological adjustment of the Gay men sampled.

The vast majority is more worried since finding out about AIDS. The level of denial of the problems posed by AIDS seems to be low with only 3% agreeing with the attitude that one need not worry because a cure is forthcoming. Eight percent expresses the sentiment that they have heard too much about AIDS, and only 7% says that AIDS has not affected them.

Suspicion and paranoia (reflected by the statement that AIDS is a conspiracy) found only 6% in agreement, although more respondents in their handwritten responses indicated that they feared a political conspiracy.

Whereas most men agreed that some concern about their sexual behavior was necessary to avoid AIDS, few believe that

they must abstain completely from sex and 76% did not want to close down bathhouses. This indicates that most feel that constraints on sexual behavior should come from personal monitoring of one's own behavior and not from externally imposed authority.

AIDS seems to have little impact on Gay respondents' desire to change their sexual orientation, nor does it appear to signal a return to "closeted" social relations, nor a high level of overt sentiment that Gay sex is wrong. Any internalized homophobia Gay men may be experiencing in the face of AIDS emerges from the attitudinal section of this questionnaire at low level, as only a small percentage (4%) believe Gay sex is wrong and think of becoming heterosexuals.

Those men who feel they are not as susceptible as others to AIDS are in monogamous relationships. Those who feel they have little control over whether or not they get AIDS are more in the bath group; bathgoers and men with a high frequency of outside sex feel they are having sex that they should not be having.

Most men sampled believe that it would be best for them to be in a monogamous relationship. In general, the trend as reflected by the attitudinal section is more toward forming relationships, feeling more committed to existing relationships, and

(Continued on next page)

In Loving Memory

SCOTT BARNARD

Man of music, light, and love. Taken after 30 years of living, of AIDS.

A profound loss to family, friends, and our community.

David Wachsnicht, Droux Nicholas

AIDS Survey

(Continued from previous page)

limiting sexual contact outside of the relationships.

HEPATITIS LINK

Many epidemiologists and medical researchers believed that the transmission of hepatitis served as a model for the transmission of the AIDS infective agent. Similarly as would the hepatitis virus, AIDS is thought to be transmitted through intimate physical contact that involves exchange of bodily fluids. Some believe that the AIDS agents may be linked to the hepatitis virus. If this is the case,

"Whatever the cause, this disaster has renewed my determination to fight our oppressors, whether microscopic monsters or microscopic minds."

the price of behavior that Gay men engage in that predisposes them to hepatitis may also predispose them to AIDS. More specifically, as a history of hepatitis correlates highly in our sample with frequency of bathhouse attendance, it is evident that engaging in high risk behavior frequently in the context of a bathhouse can result in a heightened risk of contracting AIDS more than any other form of sexual activity (bar-going, sex in monogamous relationships, or high or low frequency sexual activity outside relationships).

Incidence of hepatitis was next highest in the men who practice risk forms of sexual behavior (contacts more than three times per month outside the primary relationship).

The bar group (men not in relationships who go to bars for sex more than bathhouses) was found to have a lower incidence of hepatitis than either the bath group or the high-out group. They were also more interested in spiritual concerns than any other group in response to AIDS and had reduced or stopped their use of Amyl Nitrite more than any other group. This

"This has affected our relationship greatly, although not necessarily in a negative way. It has brought an element of fear and doubt, and concern into our lives that was not there before."

group also had a lower mean age than any other group. They tended to agree that it would be best for them to be in a monogamous relationship almost as much as men who are monogamous; at the same time, they tended to have had the least number of six-month relationships over the past five years of any of the groups. They were more likely than other groups to have changed their method of partner selection since finding out about AIDS in more self-protective ways.

The researchers deduced that those people who can delay sexual gratification by meeting people, even if only in a bar context, tended to be healthier and use their awareness about AIDS to limit potentially risk-exposing behavior, but also appeared less likely to maintain longer-term relationships.

This finding is diametrically opposed to the bath group, more of whom know they are involved in high risk behavior that they shouldn't be having. They also were the most likely to disagree with the statement that the bathhouses should be closed. Like the bar group, they tend to have had fewer six month relationships than other groups, a higher percentage of Hepatitis B than the bar group, but a lower incidence of herpes simplex than all other groups. Use of Amyl Nitrite has stayed the same for more of these respondents. They tend to be more non-committal

(neither agree nor disagree) than other groups about whether they are more susceptible to AIDS than other people.

These men, who are not in relationships and who probably use the bathhouses as their primary sexual outlet, appear to have changed their behavior least as a result of AIDS. However, they are as worried as others about AIDS and are aware that their behavior is placing them at risk. A content analysis of handwritten responses by bath group respondents found that this group is changing its sexual behavior perhaps to the same degree as those in other groups within their particular sexual context. As an example, before, a respondent may have had sex in a public room,

without washing between partners. Since hearing about AIDS, he may now stay in his own private cubicle and inspect his potential sexual partners, and wash after. The respondent then believes that those who continue to use the public rooms are at high risk for AIDS and he is not. That kind of assumption was more evident to the researchers in this group than in others, although many respondents across groups supplied the rationale for how they were not at

"I suppose one could compare AIDS with Russian Roulette — except one doesn't know who fired the gun, if a bullet emerged, and if the wound is fatal."

risk and others were in the handwritten portion. Defensive psychological reaction formations of this type are to be expected in the face of a diffuse life threat such as that which AIDS poses; however, they are maladaptive if disease prevention is the goal.

The high-out group (men who are currently in relationships with a higher frequency of sex outside, exceeding three times per month) were more likely to have had Hepatitis B than any

sexual activity requires more planning and preparation (lubricants and clothes removal) than oral sex and may indicate more forethought on the part of low-out respondents before having sex. This group also tended to have changed the selection of new sexual partners toward more healthful adaptations than the high-out group.

The monogamous group had the lowest incidence of all forms of hepatitis, the highest number of respondents who had never tried recreational drugs such as psychedelics, stimulants, and Amyl Nitrite. They displayed the strongest sentiment that they are less susceptible to AIDS than others. They agreed most that single men should find a lover because of AIDS and displayed the highest level of agreement that bathhouses should be closed of any group. They also showed the least change in sexual behaviors inside their relationships. The mean age of this group is between 30 and 34 years old.

Logically, this appears to be the group least at risk in the AIDS epidemic, if the disease is transmitted through bodily fluids and intimate contact. However, this group also demonstrates a high level of agreement with the statement that they are worried more since finding out about AIDS. Content analysis of written responses yields the fact that many had "closed" their

relationships in direct response to fear of AIDS; or had "closed" their relationship when one member of the couple contracted hepatitis. Some said that their "closing" of the relationship was not predicated on any belief that monogamy is the best form of Gay relationships, but on fear of AIDS. Respondents also expressed fear or alarm over the hypothetical incubation period for AIDS, realizing that although monogamous, they are still at risk.

CONCLUSIONS

The AIDS epidemic has been shown by the survey to already have had a profound impact on attitudes and sexual behaviors in the respondents in this sample. Dramatic increases or stopping have occurred in most forms of drug usage, and the overall level of sexual contact with new or anonymous partners has decreased in all arenas of sexual activity. An alarming number of these men, however, are still engaging in high risk behavior which, according to current epidemiological thinking, has not removed them from danger of infection. As the rate of infection is climbing exponentially while this report is being submitted, it is evident that measures Gay men are currently taking to avoid infection have begun, but are still inadequate.

As the survey indicates, the Gay men surveyed are still poorly informed about disease transmission or are unwilling or unable to change sexual patterns in a manner that will place them at lower risk. Those men who are bath-goers, or who have a high frequency of sex outside their primary relationships, are both more likely to contract other sexually transmitted diseases and less likely to modify their sexual behavior more healthfully. They are thus more likely to become victims than men who use bars for sexual contact, men in monogamous relationships, or men who have a low frequency of sex outside their primary relationships. It is therefore important to inform these men that they are at risk, and to help them make

(Continued on next page)



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Stonewall To Discuss Gay Taxation - Poverty

Stonewall Gay Democratic Club will tackle the complex relationship between Gay Taxation and delivery of services to the Lesbian/Gay community at its meeting Monday, June 6th, 7:30 to 10 p.m. at the Women's Building, 3543 18th Street (near Valencia).

The issues of taxation of Lesbian and Gay people and the delivery of social service to the community have been recurrent themes at Stonewall's meetings for over a year. "We investigated the extent of poverty in the Lesbian/Gay community and the gross disparity between what we pay into the Hotel Tax Fund and what we get out. Now it's time to investigate how much money Lesbian and Gay taxpayers are paying into the City's coffers and how much we're getting back," said club President Paul Boneberg.

Panelists at the club meeting are Edwin Sarsfield, General Manager of Department of Social Services; Supervisor Harry Britt; a representative from the Office of the Budget Analyst; and Jeff Jones, Gay community fundraiser. Panelists will be given five minutes to present their basic positions before the program is opened to audience questions and comments.

Stonewall Gay Democratic Club is the second oldest Gay Democratic Club in the nation. For information phone 626-1245 or 552-4287.

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QUICKIES!

Deaf Community Relay Celebrates First Year

The Deaf Community Relay located at Golden Gate Metropolitan Community Church has just celebrated its first year of operation. Operating totally on user and church donations with all volunteer help, the Relay service has performed a valuable service to the deaf community and their hearing friends.

The service receives calls from special machines attached to the phones of the deaf. The volunteer operator then calls the hearing friend or business and relays the message. The operator can communicate with the deaf user through the Relay's own special teletype machines. The Relay can operate also to communicate with the deaf if a hearing person or business calls the Relay and asks that a message be sent over

the deaf person's phone.

The Deaf Community Relay begins its second year with a real need for additional volunteers. The Relay can only stay open when staffed by volunteers. The Relay is asking the general community to provide more volunteers for the summer months. Training is provided and hours are flexible.

Persons interested in helping in this important service to the deaf community should call 474-3184 or 474-0307 (hearing lines) or 474-3185 (TDD). The Deaf Community Relay office is located in the offices of Golden Gate Metropolitan Community Church in the North Mezzanine of California Hall, 625 Polk Street.

Picnic For Older Gays

A picnic in Golden Gate Park for Gay people 60 and over is being held on June 5, starting at 11 a.m. The event is sponsored by the Gay and Lesbian Outreach to Elders program of Operation Concern and is one of an ongoing series of social events for older Gays sponsored by the program.

The staff and volunteers of G.L.O.E. are preparing a fried chicken lunch to be held in a lovely meadow in the park, which is close to parking and to the #5 Fulton bus. Please call Stafford or Bea at O.C. to confirm reservation or get directions or transportation information, 626-7000.

Gay and Lesbian Outreach to Elders is a social service program for Lesbians and Gay men 60 and over and is funded by the San Francisco Commission on the Aging.

Benefit Auction For

'Partners' Youth Program

Golden Gate Metropolitan Community Church is sponsoring another auction to benefit "Partners", an outreach ministry of Golden Gate MCC that provides counseling, housing, clothing, food, education, and medical care for needy young persons.

The Auction will be held at the New Bell Saloon at 1203 Polk Street, on Tuesday, June 7, from 6:00 to 11:00 p.m. Donated items to auction may be brought to the New Bell Saloon on the day of the auction, or may be left at the church office at 625 Polk St., (at Turk St.), by Monday, June 6. For further information call 474-0307.

AIDS Survey

(Continued from previous page)

the painful adjustments necessary to place them at lower risk.

This survey did not seek to reach men who have drastically curtailed all social and sexual activity as a result of AIDS. However, it appears that some men in the sample have chosen this course and may be representative of a much larger group who have responded appropriately in terms of eliminating contact with the infective agent. They may be experiencing reactive difficulties in psychological and social functioning, however. Public information agencies may need to become aware of the special needs of this group, and to provide positive recommendations as to the type of sexual and social contact still "safe" by current thinking about AIDS transmission.

AIDS has had little impact on respondents' questions about sexual identity, although it has inspired worry, fear, and some guilt about sexual behavior, as well as a desire to be in relationships. One offshoot of the AIDS epidemic may be that men will overcome their resistance or inability to commit to primary relationships, which may shift the overall sociology of the Gay community from a singles-oriented to a couples-oriented source of stability. Gay men may be forced out of fear to endure the abrasions of adjustment in their relationships, particularly since the major outlet for sexual and aggressive energy (that is, sex outside a relationship) has now been found to place men at risk for AIDS. The question will be posed by the threat of AIDS whether men can adjust and

adapt in their social patterns to facilitate smooth relationship functioning and manage all of two-men's sexual appetites and energies. Thus Gay men who are newly monogamous or who desire to redirect their sexual and emotional resources toward primary relationships now have the negative impetus of fear of AIDS to motivate them.

Gay Youth Rap Group Discusses Hygiene

The San Francisco High Risk Youth Project and Hospitality House are conducting a rap group for young Gay or Bisexual men and women under 21 years of age entitled "Staying Healthy."

The purpose of the group is to provide young Gay men and women an opportunity to develop a positive personal support system and provide a forum for discussion aimed at increasing awareness about health-related issues as well as the relationship between health and lifestyles.

The Staying Healthy Rap Group is held on Tuesdays, 6:30 - 8 p.m. at Hospitality House, 146 Leavenworth Street at Golden Gate Avenue.

Gay Library Display Needs Help

The Pacific Center in Berkeley is attempting to resurrect its Library Outreach program by beginning a third tour of its highly controversial Lesbian/Gay library display. It was shown at ten libraries throughout the state of California between May of 1979 and July of 1982, but has been gathering dust for the past nine months, due to severe staffing shortages at the Center.

Because of its previous success at reaching thousands of area residents, the display has been credited with reducing homophobia and providing "preven-

tive mental health" services for Lesbians and Gay men in the community. To mobilize the project again, the Pacific Center needs a core group of 4-5 enthusiastic volunteers who are knowledgeable in Lesbian/Gay history and culture, with emphasis on our diversity.

Specific skills needed are graphic arts, photography, knowledge of books and library procedure.

Anyone interested in helping with this project, please phone the Pacific Center, 548-8283, and leave a message for John, Kristen, or Peg.

Women Donate Blood for AIDS

Eighteen women donated blood to congregation Sha'ar Zahav's blood account at Irwin Memorial Blood Bank, May 14. The blood donors were responding to the urgent need to help replenish the congregation's blood account, depleted in the current AIDS epidemic, which has stricken several of the congregation's members. New regulations at the blood bank have made it impossible for most Gay men to donate blood.

The blood drive sponsored by

the women's havurah (circle of friends) which in a letter to its members, wrote:

"... Congregation Sha'ar Zahav is proud of being one of the few organizations to have its own blood account along with the congregation's own 'Phooey on AIDS Fund.' The need for Lesbians and Gay men to join together has never been stronger."

Additional donations are urgently needed. For further information call 921-7612.

Women's Course Offered at City College

For the first time, a course in women's studies will be offered at the Castro/Valencia site of the San Francisco Community College. "The Female Experience," taught by Peg Cruikshank, will meet Thursday evenings in the fall term, which begins August 16. The course will include interdisciplinary readings in women's studies, a unit on women

and work, fiction by Alice Walker and Maxine Hong Kingston, and autobiographical writings by Lesbians.

Registration deadline is July 1. For more information on registration, call 239-3581. For more information on the course, call Peg Cruikshank at 239-3384 or the City College women's studies office at 239-3442.

Front Runners

Sunday Fun Run Schedule

June 5 - Marina/Fort Point (1 to 5 miles, level) Meet in parking lot opposite Marina Safeway. Pot Luck Brunch.

June 12 - Marin Headlands (1.5 or 3 miles, some hills) Across G.G. Bridge to Alexander Ave. exit. Towards Sausalito, left for Ft. Cronkite, through tunnel, to end of Bunker Road. Meet at parking lot at Rodeo Lagoon. Scenic. Carpool meets at 9 a.m. Church & Market Safeway.

June 19 - Father's Day - Lake Merced (1.7 or 4.9 miles, level) Meet at boathouse on Harding Rd. off Skyline Blvd. Los Angeles Frontrunners Run for Gay Pride today!

June 26 - 9 a.m. Golden Gate Bridge (3.6 miles, rolling) Meet at unpaved parking lot just east of the toll plaza off Lincoln Blvd. Remember to turn off before going over the bridge! Spectacular city views. Gay Freedom Day Parade today at 11:00 a.m.

Tuesday Track Workout - Meet at the San Francisco State University Track, behind the Gym, 5:00 p.m.

Thursday Fun Runs (3.2 miles) - Meet at McLaren Lodge, Golden Gate Park, at 6:00 p.m.

Saturday Fun Runs (3 to 5 miles) - Meet at Stow Lake Boathouse, Golden Gate Park at 10:00 a.m.

Saturday Long Runs (15 to 20 miles) - Runs start at 8:00 a.m. Call Dave at 346-3718 for further information.

Front Runners Organization - Our purpose is to provide support and encouragement for running to Gay men, Lesbians and others who enjoy the exhilaration of the sport.

All runs are non-competitive, free, and open to all.

For more information, call Dave at 346-3718 or David at 621-6268.

Gay Man Wins Key to Miami Beach

More than 4,000 participants entered the "Why I Love Miami Beach" contest in March and one of the first prize winners was an openly Gay man, according to Florida's *The Weekly News*.

Bob Kunst, who led the opposition to Anita Bryant's campaign and waged his own battle for the Florida governorship recently, was one of two adult winners in the creative writing contest. The City of Miami Beach sponsored the contest for its 68th Birthday Jubilee.

For winning, Kunst received a check for \$25, a key to the City of Miami Beach, and a "The Courtesies of the Police Department are extended to" card.

justment. The attempts at shaping sexual behavior appear to be accompanied by worry, fear, and guilt, as well as defensive formulations as to what behaviors need to be eliminated and which maintained.

The question of whether these changes, as reflected in the survey, are temporary or the beginning of an ongoing trend in the Gay male lifestyle can only be answered in the months to come. As more friends of respondents are diagnosed or die, as more media coverage emerges, and as public information outreach to these men continues, the researchers predict that the changes described in this article will continue; that the Gay community will become more alarmed and suffer the pain of psychological adjustment to a greater degree in the months to come.

RELIGION AND US



The National Council of Churches and the Problem of Acceptance

RICK WEATHERLY

Few could have missed the recent publicity concerning the Metropolitan Community Churches and the National Council of Churches. For those of you newly arrived from Mars or recently recovered from comas, let me fill you in.

The National Council of Churches of Christ (USA) is an inter-church group representing about 40 million US Christians of mainline Protestant, Eastern Orthodox, and Black churches. It includes almost every church other than the Roman Catholics and white evangelicals. Its stated aim is to work to heal the many divisions among Christians with an ultimate goal of church reunion. The Council coordinates enormous programs of social welfare and reform. You may also have noted that the Council is under attack by right-wing political and religious groups for alleged bias in favor of Marxist states and movements. The Metropolitan Community Church is a Christian denomination formed in 1968 intended to minister primarily to Lesbians and Gay men. It also happens to be the largest organization in the world that is seeking to serve the Lesbian and Gay community. Recently MCC applied to become part of the National Council. A brouhaha erupted.

The Council's Constituent Membership Committee acknowledged in March 1982 that MCC met the National Council's stated requirements for membership (Trinitarian Christian beliefs, organized structure, minimum number of churches and members). Well, the American Baptists, the Reformed Church in America, and all the Eastern Orthodox churches announced they'd be damned if they'd sit on the same council with a bunch of homosexuals. Homosexuals of the closeted variety already ensconced on the council pitched a very circumspect blue tizzy. Everyone is looking for a painless way out of the quandary. Many are also busy looking for any reason other than MCC's Gayness to deny them admission. The Council has given itself a gracious time limit of two years to decide; May 1984.

When the Council met in S.F. in May, they spent a substantial part of their time considering what to do. They listened to their own theologians announce that the Council's own theology was too vague to serve as a measure by which to evaluate MCC. The Council also heard from MCC'ers themselves. Thus all the flurry of news reports, almost all of them confused and mistaken, but then the Church has always given journalists fits.

I must confess that a sadistic

part of me gained much pleasure as I saw the National Council squirm because of our presence. Our application uncovered for all to see some basic disunities in that "uniting" council. Asked for their position on whether MCC was really a church, the Eastern Orthodox churches replied that they themselves were the only real churches on the Council. Everyone else is simply heretical or schismatic. This did not sit well with the heretics and schismatics. One Presbyterian theologian wondered in his presentation if the issue of lifestyle was to be raised when considering a membership application, how could his own money-worshipping denomination ever qualify? Many Black Council members from non-Black churches were our supporters. But they were confronted with the intransigently anti-Gay attitudes of the Black members from Black churches.

And Oh!, the problem of closeted Gays! For centuries homosexual men have enjoyed special *entree* into, some say even effective control of, the episcopacy of the Orthodox churches. Their tradition allows priests to marry but makes bishops only of unmarried men. The most persistently hypocritical remarks were anti-Gay diatribes by Orthodox prelates of decidedly doubtful sexual orthodoxy. Among Protestants there was wide divergence between Gay people who favor MCC's application as part of a general effort to change the whole Church, and those Gay mainline church folks who see MCC as nasty spoilers who threaten to upset their carefully constructed closets.

Like most Gay and Lesbian organizations, MCC is not above allowing the powers-that-be to hoist themselves by their own petards. (Did you know that delightfully sensual-sounding phrase actually means to blow yourself up with your own grenade?) We stand back and giggle at the KABOOM. While there have been moments of high comedy and low camp as the Council contorts itself into serpentine coils trying to deal with MCC, the general mood among MCC'ers is anything but laugh-filled. As one of several dozen Bay Area MCC'ers who "resourced" the National Council, I even found myself taking it seriously. *Me!* who has been labeled a Gay arch-separatist! Yet I sat in Old First Presbyterian Church with hundreds of other MCC'ers as we worshipped under the watchful gaze of many members of the Council, I felt powerful emotions at work; a potent longing to be accepted by these representatives of the oppressor churches. How humbling to discover the persistence of feelings I believed I had escaped. But feel them I did. And what am I to make of that?

As someone who has worked in

the Gay movement since 1971, and someone who has been trained to act as a guide, counselor, and companion to Lesbians and Gay men, I know how deadly the desire for acceptance can be. So long as a Gay person or group acts primarily out of that need or rests their sense of purpose or worth on the approval of some one or other non-Gay authority, then they are in grave peril. We either know deep in our own guts that we are persons of worth or we are still slaves in one sense or another. Whether it is craven submission to disapproving parents, fear of an employer, or lusting after ecclesiastical stamps of approval, such groveling will earn us nothing more than the collapse or still-birth of our own self-respect.

Knowing and believing all that, still I cared. I cared when I saw tears in the eyes of Council members who shared our worship. Cared when Troy Perry gave them our story as only he can. Cared when putrefying archaic theology was trotted out to condemn us. Cared when closeted Gay folks in the mainline churches badmouthed MCC and sought to aid our opponents. Cared when some of them risked career and status to stand in the open with us. Cared too much perhaps. But I cared.

But then I've never considered myself a separatist. The idea that any group should or could live some sort of independent existence in a world where a nuclear warhead can reach any spot in 30 minutes, is the highest foolishness. I know we are all, friend and foe alike, in this life together and our preservation as a race rests on our being able to accept that fact and one another. Yet I firmly believe that we Lesbian and Gay folk must enter into that unity as full partners, not be allocated a servant slot by our oppressors. We must bring into that future partnership our own self-respect and self-worth or we have nothing more than a sham of unity. Too many of us are so eager for that reunion that we will gladly purchase it with the coin of our self-respect. I decline. Before the grand reunion we must rid ourselves of our internal oppression just as we must break the oppression outside us. We must stand up and stand apart first before we can truly stand together with them.

Yet, it is that larger unity which remains the goal. It is that need to be a part of the whole, the caring about what "they" think which acts as a goad to our action and as a restraint on our own tendency as humans toward arrogance and elitism. While we cannot become a part of a new Humanity before we first become a people, we will never build a life-giving Lesbian and Gay community without having eyes and hearts fixed on that greater world.

So I cared. So I care. Blush, blush. How Humbling!

Church of Christ Moves to Accept Gay Pastors

Delegates to the 22nd Annual Meeting of the Northern California Conference, United Church of Christ, meeting May 19-22 at the Asilomar Conference Grounds on the Monterey Peninsula, voted 186-86 for a recommendation that sexual orientation should not be grounds for affirming or denying a candidate's request for ordination.

The recommendation was part of a larger study which called on the church to embrace the issues of human sexuality as a

vital part of its ministry. The study was introduced by the Rev. L. William Eichhorn, pastor of Mill Valley Community United Church of Christ, one of the eleven persons on the national United Church Task Force on Human Sexuality, and the Rev. Loey Powell, national coordinator of the United Church Coalition for Gay and Lesbian Concerns.

The Annual Meeting attracted 750 delegates and visitors from 105 congregations from Eureka to Tulare. "The issue of

homosexuality is more correctly stated as an issue of human sexuality," said Powell, in addressing the meeting.

The resolution advocated support of nondiscrimination based on sexual discrimination within the whole United Church of Christ, including all hiring and firing of lay and clergy personnel and use of volunteers.

The resolution also called for changes in the church "dictated by our growing understanding of human sexuality."

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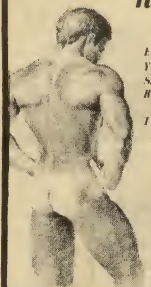
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FINANCIAL PLANNING

Becoming Financially Independent

BURNEY O. ALLGOOD, CFP

Financial independence is a phrase with a variety of interpretations. To some of us financial independence means running our own business, being our own bosses, defining our own work situations. Others would view financial independence as secure career employment with a predictable income source, excellent benefits, and a generous retirement program. A purist definition can be stated as being able to sustain a satisfactory lifestyle without having to work for an income or without having to rely on the government or other people for money.

Most people continue to tote around vague notions that someday they will retire from the workworld and somehow be financially independent. As yet I haven't been able to determine whether these people with said notions are simply dreamy optimists or ostriches with their heads conveniently buried in the sand. Too many people coast through life with the belief that a combination of ample social security, good vibes, and a supremely benevolent deity will make all just fine for their future years. Wrong!

The startling but true reality for Americans is the harsh fact that for every 100 individuals who reach age 65 only 2 are financially independent. Another 23 must continue to work while the remaining 75 become dependent on financial support from friends, relatives, or charity.

To prepare for your financial future you first must face the obvious fact that the future is indeed coming. Frankly a lot of Gay people (mostly men) are terrible about planning for their futures. Mention anything about "life after 40" and they switch channels on you! Well boys, best give some thought to who among your friends and loved ones is going to buy you the appropriate gift of diamonds for your 75th birthday. Statistics dictate that most of us presently living will see that event take place in our lives.

Five basic reasons exist why only 2% of us achieve financial independence by age 65.

1) Procrastination — The old "Manana" syndrome is the favored method we employ to steal time from ourselves. Many have developed procrastination into a virtual artform. Procrastination is the natural enemy of action and action is what captures opportunities for us.

2) No Planning — Let's say we've resolved to end procrastination and we're ready to initiate actions. For our actions to be effective we need a plan, a point of reference, a goal framework. Most of us have never realistically set financial goals. The absence of goals gives us no adequate way to monitor our actions relating to their effectiveness. Planning for financial goals provides the motivations for our actions.

3) Lack of Knowledge — Sadly, financial planning is not included in our basic educational system. Far too many adults can't even balance a check book or fill out a short form tax return. There exists two choices for remedy in this area. Devote the time and effort to educate yourself in financial planning or retain the services of a professional. During the last decade the investment world became so technical and complex that even the best informed are advised to consult with a financial professional.

4) Tax Law — The tax laws of the United States change every year. Keeping up with these changes is the proper realm of the professional and not for the novice do-it-yourselfers.

5) Money — How many times have you heard the old adage "It takes money to make money"? Well it's 100% true! Many people don't think they have any money. The fact stands that if you currently create an income, you have money. The key is pay yourself first; keep a portion of everything you earn. Remember that. Practice it. Make it a rule of your life and you will build your financial independence.

Those serious about wanting to create financial independence need keep in mind several fundamentals. Unquestionably, the most important of these is start saving early. Each year you delay starting your program adds to the difficulty of achieving your goals.

Secondly, plan that all of your investments and savings are growing enough each year to offset, as a minimum, an annual inflation rate factor of 8%. Thirdly, plan for your combined savings, pensions, investments, and social security to generate an annual income at least 80% of your preretirement income. Lastly, do everything legally in your power to reduce your tax obligations. Your objective is retaining control over as large a portion of your earnings as possible for as long a time as possible.

Planning for personal financial independence is a sober matter. Nevertheless, it should be a psychologically rewarding endeavor. After all, let's face it. The total sum of all these efforts and resources will go to support your favorite charity: the protection and perpetuation of yourself. ■

San Francisco Fair Woos Gays

The San Francisco Fair and Exposition is looking for Gays. They held an open house at the Other Ways clubhouse last Thursday evening in an effort to "reach out" to the Gay community. They want this year's Fair to "be even more representative of the diversity of culture and lifestyles that make up this fascinating city."

The Fair is put on by the City and County of San Francisco with money (\$85,000) it gets from the state as the "Fifth Agricultural District." Since the main product of this district is people, rather than corn or heifers, the Fair organizers are trying to get everyone in the city to participate.

The first Fair was last year and was held on the same weekend as the Gay Pride Parade. Needless to say, it didn't attract a lot of attention from the Gay community. This year the Fair is scheduled for the end of July and the organizers are making a concerted effort, with a little nudge from Gay Fair board di-

rector John Cailleau, to get out and drum up some enthusiasm about it in the Gay community.

Last week's open house was a step in that direction. Cailleau, Fair director Patricia Novick, and a group of other Fair staff-people gave a presentation among the usual wine and nibbles. Basically, the city Fair is similar to the rural ones everyone has been to at one time or another, except cleaner. It's at the Moscone Center, instead of outside; there are no animals, and no carnival rides.

To make up for what it loses in country flavor, the Fair people have added urban amenities, such as Las Vegas-type entertainment, haute cuisine, and contests and competitions that city people would be attracted to, instead of 4-H-ers.

What you end up with is a "Fair City," which director Novick hopes "will represent all segments of the community."

For more specific information on the San Francisco Fair, call 557-8758. ■



Pasta for dinner? Garlic bread is great with pasta, and we're going to tell you how to make the best garlic bread you ever tasted. For this recipe all you need is a loaf of French Bread, a stick of butter, a little chopped parsley, two or three cloves of fresh garlic, and Parmesan cheese, which you have anyway if you're serving pasta, right?

It is also a big help if you have a food processor. If not, fear not; it's just a little more work. Without a food processor let the butter sit out in a bowl until it softens. While it is sitting take the garlic cloves, peel them, and chop them up fine. Then take a fork and mash up the garlic and butter together, adding about half a cup of grated Parmesan and about a tablespoon or so of parsley.

On the other hand — with a food processor — just throw everything in (peel the garlic cloves first) and turn on until everything is mushed up and ready to spread.

Split your loaf of bread in half lengthwise. Take a rubber spatula and spread the butter mixture evenly on both halves. Sprinkle both halves with grated Parmesan cheese and pop into a hot oven — about 450° — until the butter melts and the top just browns a little. This is guaranteed to beat anything made with garlic salt — bar none.

Not sufficient pounds lost to indulge in pasta? Try this garlic bread with steamed artichokes. Easy, good, and tasty. More later. ■

Peter Hirsch & John Prisco

BAY AREA REPORTER GREATER BAY NEWS

AN JOSE SANTA CLARA CUPERTINO SUNNYVALE REDWOOD CITY PALO ALTO MONTEREY PLEASANT HILL VALLEJO BERKELEY WALNUT CREEK CAMPBELL FREMON

OAKLAND

A Notice or Two

It might be tit for tat or Trish for Spats . . . since Al donated ten bucks out of his pocket for Oakland's float, it was the least I could do to agree to sponsor him in Frumpy's Walk-A-Thon for Hayward's float. I really splurged for ten cents a mile!

Speaking of said villain, there just might be a semi-regular col-

umn about Hayward in this paper, "The Eyes of Hayward" and "The Nose of Oakland!" Who wants to be the mouth and ears???

East Bay pool tournament #8 showed these winners: White Horse 10, Turf 6; Inbetween 9, Big Mama's 7; Revol 12, Driftwood 4; Ollie's 11, Lake Lounge

NEZ PAS



Failing and Flurry. The Oakland Pom Pons shook up the pom-poms while entertaining at A NIGHT TO REMEMBER, a benefit of the Parade Committee at the Trocadero. (Photo: Rink)

San Jose Parade Organizes

Two star entertainers, both of whom have recorded hit singles, are scheduled to perform at the Gay Pride Celebration in San Jose on June 19. Sharon Redd, well-known for "In The Name of Love," "Love Insurance," and "Can You Handle It," has tentatively confirmed her appearance, according to Jon Snell, owner of Desperados and coordinator of entertainment for the event.

Claudja Barry, famous for her hit singles "Boogie-Woogie Dancing Shoes," "Sweet Dynamite," "I Will Follow Him," and "Work Me Over," is also sched-

uled to appear, according to Snell.

The Gay Pride Celebration will be in St. James Park in downtown San Jose starting at noon on Sunday, June 19, one week before the San Francisco Gay Parade. Admission to the concert and Gay Pride festivities is free.

The committee organizing the Gay Pride Celebration has raised approximately 60% of their proposed budget of \$9,000. In addition to \$4,500 pledged in previous weeks, two local Gay business leaders have pledged

their support. Dale Seawright, owner of Renegades, and Kevan Daniel, owner of Toyon and Kevan's, have each pledged contributions of \$500 or more.

Entertainment expenses are projected to amount to 85% of the proposed budget. Other expenses include the cost of park site acquisition, security, restrooms, and an extensive publicity campaign.

Contributions are badly needed to cover remaining expenses of the June 19 festivities. The event is expected to be the largest Gay event this area has ever had, with more than 2,000 people expected to attend.

Booths are available at the

Diablo Rap

The Center, 1818 Colfax Ave., in Concord presents a weekly Friday night rap at 8 p.m. The subject for discussion on June 10 will be "Who Do You Trust?" A Women's Rap will meet on June 20 from 7-9 p.m. to informally discuss the joys and trials of being a Gay mother.

Twice The Guys

The Temescal Gay Men's Chorus is presenting a concert on Saturday, June 4, which includes the participation of the Gay Men's Chorus of Santa Barbara. The joint concert features Brahm's "Alto Rhapsody" with a guest mezzo-soprano, a work by Randall Thompson and "I Sing The Body Electric" from the movie Fame, specially arranged for male choir. At St. John's Presbyterian Church, 2727 College Ave. in Berkeley at 8 PM; \$5 donation.

Disarmament Film Festival

The Livermore Action Group, a Bay Area organization working to oppose the nuclear arms race by focusing attention on the nuclear weapons design center in Livermore, California, is sponsoring the Disarmament Film Festival over 5 June evenings in Berkeley. This festival will take place at 7:30 p.m. on June 2nd, 3rd, 9th, 10th at Berkeley High West Campus Auditorium, 1222 University Ave., and on June 7th at La Pena, 3105 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley.

One highlight of the Film Festival will be the appearance on June 10 of Academy Award-winning filmmaker and cinematographer, Haskell Wexler, and will feature his three outstanding documentaries on nuclear weapons: Enhanced Radiation, War Without Winners II, and the Northern California premiere of The Bus II. Wexler received an Oscar for his cinematography on Bound for Glory, and his credits include In The Heat Of The Night, Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf, and One Flew Over The Cuckoo's Nest.

The June 3rd evening will feature the Northern California premiere of two unique and award-winning documentaries, Atomic Artist by Glenn Silber, and Bombs Will Make The Rainbow Break by Barbara Zahm and Tom Hurwitz. Also

on the Festival program are several classic films on nuclear war, Dr. Strangelove, The War Game, and Paul Jacobs and the Nuclear Gang.

Setting the stage for the demonstrations at the Lawrence Livermore Nuclear Lab on June 20th will be an evening of films on nonviolent direct action, including Gandhi by CBS News, and a beautiful and moving film on Martin Luther King: Montgomery to Memphis.

The Disarmament Film Festival is co-produced by David Brown, producer of the 1982 Nuclear Film Forum in San Francisco. Tickets are available for \$4 at BASS, the Livermore Action Group office, the Old Mole and Women's Place bookstores in the East Bay, and at San Francisco bookstores Lime-light, City Lights and Modern Times. For group and/or series discount tickets call 540-7977.

Cafe, Kaffee

A new cafe will provide an intimate atmosphere for Gay people to meet at the Diablo Valley Community Center. There will be live entertainment and exotic coffees. Try the cafe on Thursday, June 9, from 7 to 9:30 p.m.

Women After Dark

The Maya, a new club "For Women After Dark," has been opened by Eve at 59 Grand Avenue (at Webster) in Oakland. With hostess Shirley, the club is open each Thursday and Saturday Night at 10 p.m., and offers disco, video games, wide screen TV and other pleasures. Info: 465-3553.

rally. The charge for information only vendors is \$25, \$50 for any group or organization offering food or items for sale. For booth space, please send your reservation to: Gay Pride Celebration, P.O. Box 26255, San Jose, CA 95159.

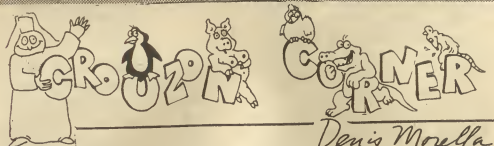
To contribute your time or support, or for further information, please call Doug Winslow at (408) 294-2311.

Balls in Modesto

Friday, June 10, will be the kickoff for a grand weekend in Modesto. That night a Farm Dance will be held and the winners of the Cowboy/Cowgirl contest will be announced. Winners of the Cowboy/Cowgirl contest will receive one night lodging in Reno during the Reno National Gay Rodeo and \$25 each expense money.

Saturday, June 11, the Grand Duchess/Grand Duke Ball will be held and the new Grand Duchess and Grand Duke will be announced.

Tickets for each event will be \$3 advance or \$4 at the door. Both events will be held at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 4342 Dale Road in Modesto.



Need a Gay Doctor in East Bay?

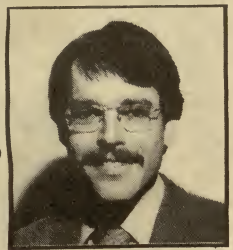
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BAY AREA REPORTER ENTERTAINMENT

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'B.A.R.'s' Traveling Critic

New York Theatre on \$10-\$45 a Ticket

by Steve Warren

New York has shows for almost any budget, and movies for the rest. If you want to choose by price, here's a guide to three hits we saw on a recent visit:

LE BOURGEOIS AVANT-GARDE

\$12 Top (\$10 Weeknights)

At the low end in terms of price, quality, and Manhattan geography is the Ridiculous Theatrical Company's new show, *Le Bourgeois Avant-Garde*, subtitled "a comedy after Moliere."

A low budget is not a negative factor to Charles Ludlam's troupe, whose camp sensibility tends to conceive shows economically and have fun with the challenge at their One Sheridan Square home in the Village.

But a low budget alone is no more guarantee of a substantial product than the millions lavished on *Cats*. I've seen three other plays by the Ridiculous and none was as thin as *Bourgeois*.

The best thing to be said for the show is that it's cute. The worst is that it sounds like it was written 20 years ago as a topical sketch. Within a format of "Moliere meets the Marx Brothers" it pokes fun at *nouveau riche* patrons of the arts, the sort who know nothing about art but even less about what they like.

Ludlam plays such a man,

Foufas, a pigeon who's been bagged by some starving artists who can sell him anything as long as they persuade him it's the most *avant* possible *garde*. If this "My *garde* is *avanter* than your *garde*" foolishness didn't go out with the 60's, at least most of us have stopped paying attention to it.

It's fun in a nostalgic way to listen for a few minutes to the squabbling about whether neo-modernism is newer than post-modernism. "Then you're a futurist?" "No, the future was over by 1930."

When boredom is the joke you have to know how far to carry it. A second act dance involving a man, a bird, and a lot of paper is brief and varied enough to be funny. John Heys' endless "Newspeak" babble ("doy doy duh doy doy" repeated *ad nauseam*) is not, especially when it's just setting up an old and predictable gag.

Black-Eyed Susan brightens the show as a wealthy Pole, Mrs. Panzaroff. Hearing her murder the language (she clearly enunciates "succumb" as "suck cum") kept me from fretting about missing Makarova in *On Your Toes* (or Holly Woodlawn

in *The Ritz*, which I wasn't fretting about anyway).

Every few minutes some manic dialogue or outrageous costume will make the show momentarily irresistible, as when Foufas tries on a pair of ultra-tight *avant-garde* pants and asks, "How do they dance with no ballroom?" An exploding stomach gag has already been topped by Monty Python's *The Meaning of Life*.

Gender is only an incidental consideration in *Ridiculous* casting. Everett Quinton, who also did the costumes, plays Mrs. Foufas. Ludlam's character, a would-be womanizer, learns that it's *avant-garde* for men to embrace and even kiss each other; but he declares early on that he's "not one of those lah-de-da guys."

Ludlam is, of course, and that's part of the fun. It was good to see less than a third of the audience was Gay, so this camp troupe appeals to a mixed crowd in New York. Among the viewers was actor Bill Murray, who could be the "William J. Murray" listed as the company's largest contributor.

I guess he knows what's *avant-garde* when he sees it.

QUARTERMAINE'S TERMS

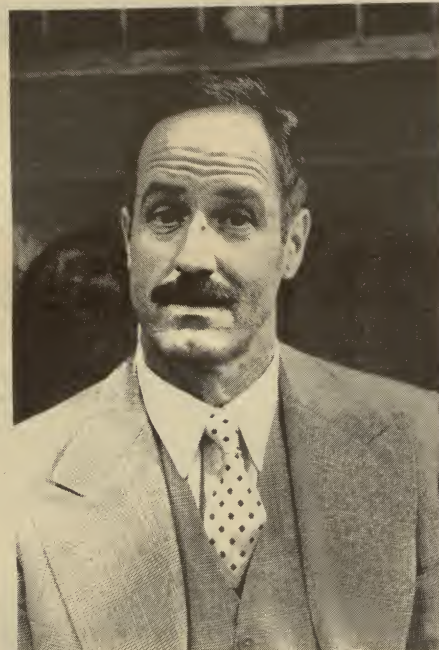
\$24 Top

Getting away from Broadway can be dangerous. You may wind up seeing some esoteric experimental and/or Third World (which to New Yorkers includes San Francisco — True West is finally a hit off-Broadway) contrivance that can't be appreciated by anyone from this planet unless transported by the proper drugs.

Getting away from Broadway can also be rewarding. More and more producers are willing to settle for a modest return on a moderate investment through a respectable run in a house where the audience can see the stage without opera glasses, instead of playing winner-take-all in a Broadway crapshoot that often begins and ends in a single night.

A current off-Broadway sell-out, *Quartermaine's Terms* by Simon Gray, is putting a lovely new upper east side theatre, Playhouse 91, on the map.

Probably the most subtle play Gray has written, *QT* draws you slowly into the life of an English school where foreigners go to learn the language. It's run by two old — I've hesitated to speculate about the sexual orientation of any of Gray's characters since I learned that "Butley" wasn't Gay, but these men plan to retire to a seaside cottage together so draw your own conclusions. We meet only one of them, Eddie (Roy Poole), who



The relatively inexpensive top price for *QUARTERMAINE'S TERMS* won't change, but star Remak Ramsay will have left the show by the time you read this article. (Photo: B. Pierce)

grows visibly older over the play's three-year span.

The other six characters teach at the school and get together to discuss their lives in the staff room. That's where we encounter them, on David Jenkins' functional but unattractive set, half of which looks too fresh and half too worn.

Henry (John Cunningham), who "specializes in — everything," has a problem daughter; Melanie (Dana Ivey) has a problem mother; Anita (Caroline Lagerfelt) has a problem husband; Mark (I saw understudy George Hosmer in his second performance in the role and he fit beautifully into the ensemble).

Sexuality on Broadway: incidental to *Ridiculous* casting, a speculation in *Quartermaine*, and disregarded along with race and genitalia in *Cats*.

ble), an aspiring novelist, has a problem wife; Derek (Anthony Heald), the new part-timer whose name no one remembers, has a problem with accidents; and St. John Quartermaine (Remak Ramsey, who will have left the show by the time you read this) just has a problem.

Despite the title the show doesn't revolve around Quartermaine. He spends most of his time (possibly including weekends and holidays) sitting in a relatively comfortable chair and spacing out, having no social life except when someone else finds a use for him as "the perfect outsider." I won't speculate on his sexuality either, especially as he doesn't seem to have.

The play is just as much the story of any of the others — Eddie, as he copes with the school's shifting fortunes; Melanie, as her hated mother dies under suspicious circumstances and she finds, then loses, Jesus; Derek, as he struggles for acceptance at the school while an old girlfriend cures him temporarily of his accident proneness; and so on.

Watching these seven people

speaks — without listening — to each other is one of the rare joys of modern theatre. The dialogue is about 90 percent exposition — very little happens within each scene — but Gray's writing is so clever we're seldom aware of it and less often annoyed by it.

Under Kenneth Frankel's direction seven fine performances are keenly meshed into a group you can believe has worked together for years. Each character is woven from subtle comedy and subtle tragedy. You may do most of your laughing and crying inwardly as they reach out to each other without making contact; and you'll understand how the world may

not end with a whimper, but go on muddling ahead whimpering through eternity.

CATS \$45 Top

Cats is the show to see on Broadway this season, but the fact that it's fashionable doesn't mean it's the best.

Oh, they try; but it looks as if they set the price first and then attempted to put enough on the stage to justify it:

"Nobody's going to pay 45 cents to listen to a bunch of poems by T.S. Eliot, even if cats are trendy. We'll have to set them to music — let's get Andrew Lloyd Webber. Anybody who can orchestrate a crucifixion . . .

"We want an environmental piece that will draw the audience into it, like Nicholas Nickleby. Let's use the same director (Trevor Nunn) and designer (John Napier) . . .

"There had better be one hit song, and we can't trust that to Eliot. (Trevor Nunn wrote the lyrics to "Memory" from poems by Eliot.) . . . If the costumes

(Continued on next page)



"You wanna buy a canard?" Charles Ludlam makes an unusual appearance out of drag in his *LE BOURGEOIS AVANT-GARDE* and seems to have moved into a full length hair shirt.

NY Theatre

(Continued from previous page)

create the characters we won't need any big stars or great actors, just some kids who can really sing and dance . . .

"We're almost there, but we need a few razzle-dazzle gimmicks to send them out on a total high. How about transforming the stage into a day-glo pirate ship for the campy "Growltiger" number and flooding the floor with fog for a climax where a giant tire that looks like the ship from Close Encounters carries Grizabella to the 'Heavieside Layer' (cat heaven)? . . .

"And to knock them completely on their ass, we'll let the audience come on stage at intermission. Does Equity say we have to give the actors a break? I'd like to leave Old Deute-

ronomy (Ken Page) out there to hold court and sign autographs . . .

"Now, have I forgotten anything?"

Yes, the T.S. Eliot poems you started with. They're in there somewhere, but not as a focal point. If there is a focal point it's that \$45 ticket price.

If song, dance, and spectacle are enough for you — and the advance sale indicates that someone must be recommending it — Cats offers them in abundance.

The cattivating set, which covers every available surface of the Winter Garden's interior, is composed of blown-up human — not kitty — litter. It looks like the floor of a movie theatre at the midnight show and feels like the haunted house in a theme park. The costumes — mostly glori-

fied body stockings — and makeup are ingenious, concealing most racial and some sexual characteristics (Jellicles have no genitals). The lights look like everything from a Christmas tree to a disco to hundreds of pairs of cat eyes blinking in the dark.

Terence V. Mann plays Rum Tum Tugger, the leather cat. His gyrations put the female cats in heat while the toms' reactions range from furious to curious. Mann is one of the few performers to give his part some personality. Another is Bonnie Simmons as Growltiger's love interest. Ex-San Franciscan street singer Stephen Hanan is excellent visually, but a stronger voice would make his characters, Bustopher Jones and Asparagus, more outstanding.

Four (out of 22) performers were absent at the show I caught, indicating both a lack of discipline and the unimportance of the individual to a show like this. One who was missed was Betty Buckley. "Memory" was no show-stopper as sung by her understudy, Diane Fratantoni.

A few characters recur but none develop as the show zips from one vignette to another. If you're looking for mindless entertainment, you can turn off your brain and just be dazzled by flash and motion that gives new meaning to Gilbert and Sullivan's phrase "with cat-like tread."

I'd love to see what six or eight good cabaret performers could have done with the same material in a no-frills production of Cats, but that's been ruled out for all time.

Cats is overblown, overrated, overproduced, and overpriced; but you don't dare come back from New York without having seen it.

S. Warren



Terence V. Mann and company felines keep the fur flying in CATS. (Photo: M. Swope)

Celebration of Gay Voices During Valencia Rose Showcase Month

On Fridays in June, The Valencia Rose presents a series of concerts entitled "Gay Voices" in celebration of Lesbian/Gay Pride Month.

On Friday, June 3, singer-songwriter Blackberri performs at 10:30 PM. Blackberri is a Black, politically progressive performer, with a unique blend of jazz, blues, and rock. Letteta Theresa, a flutist, singer, composer, and songwriter opens the show. Tickets: \$4 at the door.

On Friday, June 10, Ron Romanovsky and Paul Phillips perform in concert at 10:30 PM. Tickets: \$4 at the door.

On Friday, June 17, The Valencia Rose presents A Night

Of Political Comedy with comics Christopher Hershey and Ruby "Rodriguez" Rubenstein. Hershey has gained recognition for his scathing political comedy and satire. Rubenstein is a political satirist. This comedy concert begins at 10:30 PM and Tickets are \$4 at the door.

On Friday, June 24, Gay singer-songwriter Charlie Murphy from Seattle performs two concerts at 8 PM and 10:30 PM. He will be accompanied by cellist Jami Sieber. Murphy's unique and strong presence as a performer results from a balance of artistic skill and political intelligence. Tickets: \$5; Reservations: 552-1445.

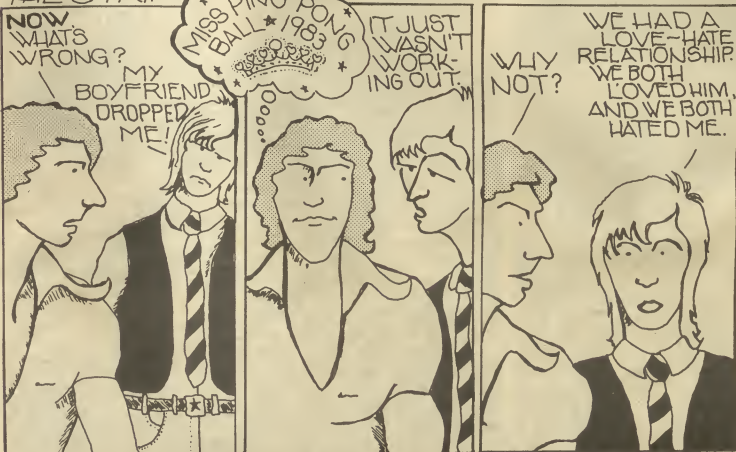
Ecstasy and Broughton

James Broughton, Bay Area poet, playwright, and filmmaker, will be the speaker at the final meeting of the Gay Academic Union for the current academic year. On the same occasion, the GAU will present its \$300 Student Academic Award for Excellence on a Gay/Lesbian Theme, Image, or Project.

At his June 12 appearance Broughton will talk on "The Care and Feeding of Ecstasy" and will read from his books, A Long Undressing, Graffiti for the Johns of Heaven, and his forthcoming Ecstasies.

GAU meets monthly at 4 PM during the academic year at 1668 Bush Street. Visitors and guests are welcome and are asked for a \$1 donation to help finance the Academic Excellence Award and operating expenses.

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TUESDAY JUNE 7 Blow Up (fr. James Toback (1:10, 5:10, 9:15)) —also— Michelangelo Antonioni's Blow Up (fr. M. Antonioni (11:10, 3:10, 7:15))	WEDNESDAY JUNE 8 Napoleon (fr. Abel Gance (2:10, 7:00)) DOORS OPEN TODAY AT 1:30	THURSDAY JUNE 9 The Erotic Film of Peter de Rome (11:10, 2:35, 6, 9:25) —also— Jean Genet's Un Chant d'Amour Kenneth Anger's Scorpio Rising INVOCATION OF MY DEMON BROTHER LUCIFER RISING (12:45, 4:10, 7:35)

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TALES OF TESSI TURA

Coming Home with a Ho-Jo-To-Ho!

GEORGE HEYMONT

San Franciscans are in for a surprise this month when Jeannine Altmeyer begins to whoop up a storm as Brunnehilde. The Oklahoma-born soprano has been living abroad for many years and (until the recently televised production of the Chereau Ring) has been almost unknown in America. Other than a Sieglinde in 1980 her career has been made mostly on foreign shores.

To some, Altmeyer may be regarded as a dark horse in an exceedingly tight race. Possessing one of the few heroic soprano voices active in the profession, she is younger than most of her colleagues who have been singing such roles as Elsa, Isolde, Sieglinde, and Brunnehilde. A visit with Jeannine sounds less like any of those ladies and perhaps more like a chat with an aging cheerleader. Her comments are punctuated with "Wow! Gosh! Yeah! Ya think so?" as she describes her own growth and where she now stands in the trade.

"I won a contract when I was 21, dropped out of school, and went to the Met that fall. When Mr. Goentele died the management team that came in didn't know me and I had a hard time with the transition. I knew by the time I left that the Met was a dead end. There are so few singers who sing my roles that there are more than enough engagements for me (which isn't true for lyric sopranos, Mozart singers, lyric mezzos, etc.)," explains Altmeyer. "But in this *fach* — the dramatic spinto — there's just no one who sings these roles. Look at the other Sieglindes. Why on earth would I put myself in competition with Leonie Rysanek? She's a phenomenal singer and I admire her tremendously. But she's much older than I am. We're completely different. If someone were looking for a Sieglinde they wouldn't try to decide between Rysanek and myself. The same with Gwyneth Jones or Hildegarde Behrens. And that's it!"

"It's really too easy for some people to be called great singers

in this *fach*. The Karajan movie I did was a tape that we made almost ten years ago. My voice is much bigger today. Impresarios are really looking for new voices now — especially heldentensors. Anyone who can sing a note gets labeled as a new Melchior. Just look at who's singing Lohengrin: I know two tenors who began fantastic careers while turning out mediocre performances because they weren't ready."

Birgit Nilsson once joked that Isolde wasn't a hard role to sing as long as a soprano had a good pair of shoes. All teasing aside, the Wagnerian soprano roles demand tremendous stamina. "Look, even if you sing Guttrune in *Götterdämmerung* you come into the theatre at 5 o'clock and leave at 11. Can you imagine what it's like to sing Brunnehilde?" asks Jeannine. "I'm a very strong person and don't have vocal fatigue. Physical fatigue, yes. Singing Elsa and parts like that which are long have made my voice very strong, so that I don't get fatigued in normal Italian parts. You learn how to pace yourself."

One of the curious advantages Jeannine has is that her voice speaks for itself. "I've seen singers get so worried about their public image that they don't worry about their public performances anymore," she gasps. "Singers in Europe don't go on TV doing interviews because it's not necessary. In America you see singers billed as 'the world's most versatile soprano' — which an artist would *never* do overseas. No one there would hire people to do publicity. Maybe these singers

just need it for their egos."

The mass media (and its effect on the arts) has become a hot subject in recent years. But for an artist who has been living abroad, the American media is a source of more ominous problems, as Altmeyer outlined in detail. "The newspapers abroad are much more interested in events which are closer to Europe than America. I think Americans should be more aware of what their image is in the world. They're terribly isolated to a point of being really chauvinistic. It's getting dan-

you watch TV and see what people are being fed, what the government is doing to their minds — it's poison. People don't realize it, but when you come back you see it."

Perhaps the utter passivity of the American population annoys Jeannine the most. "Americans are always so content to take their turn!" she sighs. "There are so many rules in this country. If you go into a restaurant and you're a party of two people you can't sit at a table that has seating for three. You have to wait in line even when

can't have people in your dressing room, you can't give an interview unless it's okayed... In Europe you're so much freer — you never hear about these things!"

Much of the problem in the United States, however, stems from a lack of sufficient funding for rehearsal time. Instant opera still exists in some American cities (compared to Germany where there is infinitely more government support for the arts than under the Reagan administration). "A lot of times in Europe when you rehearse a production for four weeks there are days when you have time off or when you don't get so much done because you're not inspired," explains Altmeyer. "I really like long rehearsal periods when you work on detail. That's when you can concentrate on every finger, on your face and on your inner feelings — which are so much more important than blocking your movement onstage."

In addition to her filmed performance in the Chereau Ring, Americans will soon be able to see Jeannine Altmeyer as Chrysothemis opposite Leonie Rysanek's Elektra (which was taped in a studio with Karl Boehm conducting and then shot outdoors in Greece). "I sang my first Chrysothemis opposite Ingrid Bjoner's Elektra," recalls the soprano. "Doing those performances with her helped me enormously with my vocal technique. She's the kind of artist who helps pull me up to another level. I think she's one of the greatest singers. Bjoner has a wonderful vocal technique. She has perfectly effortless high tones and can sing them pianissimo. She can do things with her voice that Nilsson could never do. She's really come to her peak at about 51 — when she's an old lady."

While her voice specialty guarantees Jeannine employment until she retires, Altmeyer is faced with a strange, yet delicate irony. One of the roles she covets will always remain out of her reach. "I would love to sing *Traviata*," she confesses with a wistful sigh. "It's one of the most beautiful roles. But it's completely outside my *fach*."



Jeannine Altmeyer returns to her home country as a sought-after Wagnerian soprano. There just aren't many of those around.

gerous for this country. Some Italians are very anti-American because of the way the tourists act (they're rude and expect everyone to speak English). When people talk to me they see that Americans are not always the stereotyped image."

"I live in Switzerland and there's a definite cultural shock when you come back to the States. I find the American mentality has gotten too regimented — I think we've become too controlled by the government. Americans produce themselves to be little gnomes: they don't speak out anymore. When

there are ten empty tables. I can't get used to following so many rules again. I wonder if I ever did or if it's just getting worse."

That kind of structured thinking even overflows into her work environment — often with surprising results. "People think of German society as being regimented, but it's nothing like America. With the smaller opera companies in America they try to be very professional but in truth they're very regimented. The attitude is so business-like: your interview is here, your rehearsal is there, you



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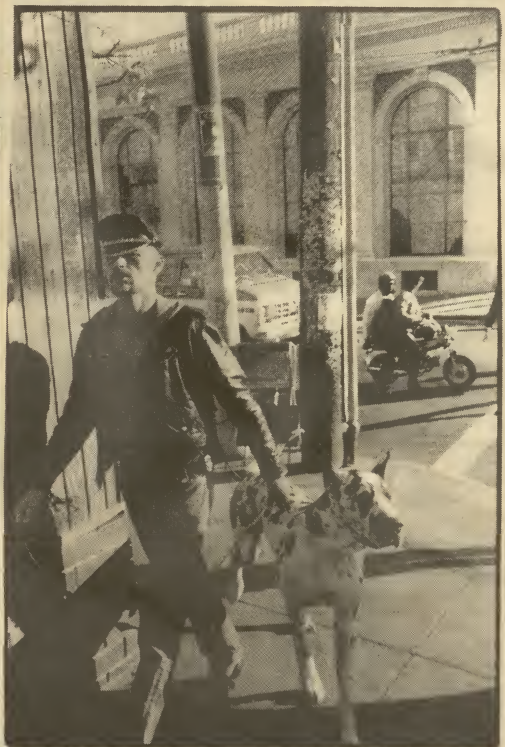
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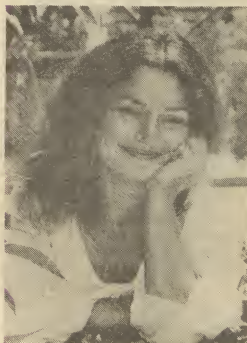


Dog Dominance. A stern look in both Master and pet.

Gay Theatre in Oakland

A fresh angle of vision will be brought to Gay theatre when Deborah Rogin's one-act play *Angle of Vision* is performed on a double-bill with Ruth Friedlander's *Xantippe*. The plays open at 8 PM on Friday, June 3, at Ollie's Radcliff Hall (4130 Telegraph in Oakland) and run until Sunday 20.

Rogin's play shows the conflict experienced by a man who watches a Gay youth murdered by fag-bashers. The man does not act to help the boy, and his subsequent turmoil provides the framework for Rogin to explore the "shame and humiliation" she so often sees in her Gay friends' experiences.



Playwright Deborah Rogin

"The sense of being a foreigner in one's own society brings psychological numbing," she said. "The denial of fear is further deadening." Rogin feels that straight society so traumatizes our feelings towards eros that we cannot act, sometimes allowing ourselves to be victims, at other times causing inability to act against oppression and

violence. Her play presents these conflicts in the love story of her two main characters and the protagonist's inability to take action.

"I'm trying to look at the process of numbing. People deal with violence by ignoring it, by not paying attention," Rogin said. "We don't have the energy to take charge of a world that's disintegrating, which increases our numbness. Gays can deal openly with these problems, organize and act against shame and numbing."

Rogin has taught drama to both children and adults, and has had ten productions of her work in three years. She feels *Angle of Vision* is important to San Francisco Gays and would like to bring the production across the Bay.

"The openness and love of the lead characters are a good antidote to the problems of our lives," she said, "and the depiction of Gays the truest I've seen on stage."

Reservations: 527-9146. ■

Playing For Legality

Robin Sutherland, San Francisco pianist, will give a benefit recital for Gay Games II at 5 p.m., June 5 at Albion Hall, 141 Albion St., San Francisco. Tickets for the Sutherland benefit are \$60 and are available at the Gay Games office at 890 Hayes St., San Francisco, 94117, or by phone at 861-8282. This will be the first of a series of concerts to help support the legal fund for Gay Games II. The games will be held in San Francisco during the summer of 1986.

Dr. Tom Waddell, founder and President of the Gay Games said that Games II has reached its first critical threshold: the granting of a tax deductible status by the Internal Revenue Service. "Their first reading was not favorable," Waddell said, "we must turn this decision around. Our legal efforts are just getting underway."

Sutherland will perform works by J.S. Bach, Maurice Ravel, William Bolcom and Rachmaninoff. ■



Pianist Robin Sutherland

B.A.R. INTERVIEW

No Bitching for Brown

A New Author and His Mellow Satire

by Scott Treimel

People of every age enjoy a good laugh. It is with this in mind that the humorist sets about his work. If he amuses he wins fame, fortune, and is desired in the sack. If he does not he is just like everyone else and waiters hold him in contempt.

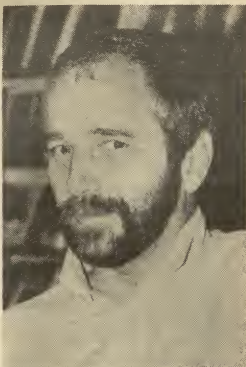
On May 5 *The Official Gay Handbook* was published and its author Hudson Brown is now on the verge of one or the other scenario. The book, Brown's first, is fashioned after the *Preppie Handbook* and follows its protagonist Bruce from birth through his 25th year by recording the shifts in his rarefied sensibilities.

Hudson Brown was in town last week on a promotional tour and we met. He is the kind of man who gives life to the concept Teddy Bear. He is 42 years old, 5'9", wears Oxford saddle shoes, and has eyes that are just as pretty as he claims. Upon meeting me he tried to be funny. Then he plied me with liquor and talked his head off. Here is my report.

Hudson Brown was born to middle-class Baptist parents in Memphis, and the hellfire of damnation was a conversational favorite. Almost at once young Hudson displayed his scorn for all things fundamental and converted to the Church of MGM, where his zeal proved truly evangelical — often he could be found dressing his little brother in bedspreads and commanding him to twirl in reverence of Esther Williams. The dictates of decorum Brown learned from his sister, whose instruction he applied to the letter. In 1951 she chanced to remark, "Look at them, what a nice couple — he's so tall," and Brown has obediently desired basketball players ever since.

It was also in 1951, while eleven-year-old Brown was demurely peddling his piano lesson, that he spied graffiti pronouncing "So-and-So Is Queer." He considered it at length and finally concluded queer was the thing he must be. Although he did not know what it meant, he sensed he was a sissy and figured queers were sissies who had grown up.

In 1958, the concept of homosexuality apparently had little currency at Memphis



Kitsch fellow Hudson Brown (Photo: Rink)

State University, at least not in the Phi Kappa Alpha fraternity, where none of Brown's brothers suspected their vice-president wanted to do it with boys. Certainly Brown supplied evidence galore. He was a cheerleader and a pushover for talent night, for which he wrote spoofs, staged stagey skits, and made the costumes. Later Brown cut out of Memphis State, for he showed little promise for the pre-med and accounting courses he for some reason took. Later, at

Memphis Academy for the Arts, Brown met the fine-boned, long-haired beauty who was his first lover.

Just as Brown believes he was a big man on campus, he now believes he is a big man in Chicago where he lives with a fellow who bartends at the Gold Coast, a leather-is-my-life type who Brown says has "mellowed" him. Brown's claim to recognition seems to refer to his exploits as a window dresser, a chic store owner, and his conviction that he is eminently quotable. If he is indeed a big man in town the stake rests on the Nancy Reagan White House Paper Plates he designed two years back. He was right on the money there, and *Us* and *People* paid him tribute for it.

The Official Gay Handbook is kitsch on the order of the paper plates, so it is easier to read Brown as a trend clincher than as a writer. Aside from his diary, he had written hardly at all before he spent five sporadic months tapping on his word processor to produce his current offerings. He hopes Gay men will identify with the little habits and preoccupations the book records in a "gently" humorous fashion. Gentle is the way Hudson Brown likes to be funny. Not for Hudson Brown the punch of Joan Rivers or the "bitchy" and "ugly" business he thinks most Gay humor is. Although he assured me he can "level a guy at the knees," to do that is mean and he is not. He wants his humor to be "positive and up," which is a peculiar sentiment for a satirist. Satire is activated by criticism. Look, for example, at Fran Lebowitz, whom Brown admires.

Brown shies away from criticism perhaps because he discovered it was the culprit behind his problems when he underwent psychotherapy at 39. His year-long self-examination session left Brown to dot his speech with self-help idioms.

(Continued on page 26)

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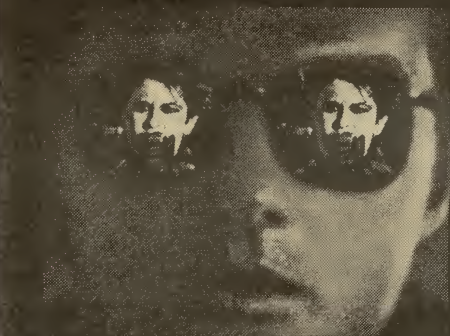
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FILM CLIPS

REVIEWS BY MICHAEL LASKY & STEVE WARREN

Return of the Jedi

Ewoks by Night

As you might have suspected, Princess Leia does not die at the end of *Return of the Jedi* and leave Luke Skywalker and Han Solo free to romp through the universe enjoying laser sex together. Nor do R2-D2 and C-3PO admit—as we've known since *Star Wars*—that they're lovers, and reveal how droids do it.

Actually, nothing about Jedi is much more surprising than those details, save the disclosure that Luke has a twin sister (guess who—when there's only been one female character in the series); and that comes early on.

To compensate for the script's predictability, director Richard Marquand moves the action along with the pace if not the coherence of *Raiders of the Lost Ark*. There are fewer dead spots than in either of the first two parts of this trilogy.

The first half-hour is spent resolving the situation from the end of *The Empire Strikes Back*. Han Solo (Harrison Ford) has been captured by Jabba the Hutt—a lizard-limbed Orson Welles—and frozen in carbon. Within 24 hours—or whatever constitutes a day on Tatooine—all of our heroes penetrate Jabba's impenetrable fortress and rescue Solo. Princess Leia (Carrie Fisher), in an iron bikini, has never looked so feminine nor acted so masculine.

Meanwhile, back at the Galactic Empire, they're rebuilding their space station to make the Death Star "the ultimate weapon." All that stands in their way is the rebel led by Luke Skywalker (Mark Hamill), "the last of the Jedi."

Luke's goodness is pitted against the evil of his father, Darth Vader, who has succumbed to the "dark side" of The Force. Dark = evil is a racist concept, but that's countered by having Lando Calrissian (Billy Dee Williams) as the dark side of the good side.



High Sail-ers, New in Town. Carrie Fisher and Mark Hamill ride a desert barge into battle in *RETURN OF THE JEDI*, the long-awaited and worthwhile conclusion of the "Star Wars" trilogy. Don't worry, a "pre-quel" trilogy is planned.

The plot, Freudian father-son conflict and all, is just an excuse for a string of adventures which already look like the video game they will soon become, and which find the protagonists facing certain death at least every 30 minutes. The best of these episodes is a high speed forest chase on the equivalent of airborne motorcycles.

The special effects, while not always as perfect as I remember them being in *Empire*, are still astonishing. The Rebels' war room is equipped with what looks like holographic computer animation, and most of the action is so lifelike we can accept it without question.

Then there are the creatures, a mixed bag in more ways than one. Our old favorites have never been in better form—except poor Yoda, whose cameo is badly synched and largely unintelligible. New to this film are the marvelous, blob-like Jabba and his Felliniesque court, some of whom suffer from too much Muppet influence; and the 66 Ewoks, a forestful of stuffed animals come to life.

Nitpicking aside—and my mother always told me not to pick my nits—*Return of the Jedi* is a powerfully pleasing package that reminds us what the joy of moviegoing is all about.

(Coronet)

S. Warren

Invitation au Voyage

'Querelle' Co-Star Takes the Lead

Invitation au Voyage begins with a succession of new wave images, as if it's going to be a *Diva* ripoff with rock music instead of opera. A few minutes later, by the time Lucien and his twin sister Nina kiss passionately in what looks like the steam room of the Club Baths, the film has developed a personality of its own.

But that's a flashback. Lucien has put Nina's body in a bass fiddle case and strapped it to the top of his car and started driving. Others on the highway include a hitchhiding kleptomaniac who has left her husband; a man who sells artificial flowers; two horny Norwegian truckers who haul logs; a Turk who may have just killed his wife; and an old man with strong opinions about pop music—he likes Nina Hagen, David Bowie, and Lou Reed, but "Julio Iglesias makes me puke."

"If I die what will you do?" Nina once asked Lucien. "I'll make you live again," he responded. That's what his "Voyage" is about, as he plays her tapes, hangs up her posters, and even plants a big kiss on the lips of a man she once loved.

Thus Lucien marks time until the inevitable final trans-

formation.

Made in France by Italy's Peter Del Monte, *Invitation au Voyage* suffers from a natural comparison to *Diva*. This is unfortunate because it can stand on its own as a bizarrely compelling black comedy.

★ ★ ★

Laurent Malet is making his move.

The handsome young (27) Frenchman who plays Lucien in *Invitation au Voyage* has been acting for ten years but is just beginning to be noticed in the U.S. as two of his films, *Voyage* and *Querelle*, go into wider release here than any of his previous efforts.

He got to visit San Francisco when both pictures played at the 26th annual S.F. International Film Festival, and stayed on an extra week "for fun."

Although he answers politely, one senses that Malet is tired of hearing *Invitation au Voyage* compared to *Diva*. He admits their visual styles are similar but contends, "Diva is about the stylization of the style. *Invitation* is about something else... It's a road movie."

It was his idea to make the film, Malet says. He read the book about five years ago and started working on it with his agent.

The actor has a real life twin—a brother, Pierre Malet, also an actor, who may be seen in *The Night of the Shooting*

Stars.

Laurent says no thought was ever given to his playing both siblings: "The film is about androgyny as a philosophical idea. This is not *Tootsie*." The message conveyed by the ending, as he sees it, is that "Love is even stronger than death."

By what he calls "pure coincidence" Malet plays another young man with a sister in *Querelle*, R.W. Fassbinder's controversial final film about the sexual odyssey and spiritual descent of Jean Genet's sailor in the French port of Brest.

Malet plays Roger, who is always promising to fix Gil the hard hat up with his sister Paulette, although Gil looks as if he would settle for Roger.

The Frenchman says he
(Continued on page 26)



Laurent Malet discusses his film with writer Steve Warren. (Photo: Rink)

STAGE

When 'Luv' Goes Impotent

by Dan Turner

Murray Schisgal wrote *Luv* in the Sixties and co-wrote *Tootsie* in the Eighties. Twenty years separate these two successful comedies. Why does *Luv* only bring a few chuckles now?

The revival of the 1964 comedy at the 1177 Theatre Club on California Street has an able cast. Richard Lauren has appeared in films, TV, and on stage throughout the United States. Rodney Sheriff currently appears with *The Comedy Underground* at the Punch Line in San Francisco. Denise Schultz was a member of *The Comedy Store Players* in Los Angeles.

The staging is simple, the performances concise, the applause polite, but the bubbles are gone. I did not feel like staying for champagne.

Though both *Luv* and *Tootsie* take comedic excursions into the absurd, they have different themes. In *Luv* the character Harry wonders if he can love. In *Tootsie* the character Michael wonders if he can get a job.

Though there are some funny bits in *Luv* — such as the extent to which people will go to prove they are in love — in the end they remain just bits. I was not convinced. I was more concerned that Harry was out of work than that he was impotent.

Blame it on the times. Job hunting is more important to us than love hunting. In the Sixties we could get nervous about love. We could afford to. In the Eighties we get nervous about jobs. We can't afford it.

Murry Schisgal is a smart playwright. He knows that when people are nervous about something, comedy is not far behind. Comedy plays with people's nerves, fears, hopes, whatever —

but it reaches fastest and furthest when it coincides with the angst of the age.

Someone mentioned that with better actors maybe the play would — but, no, I believe the actors are good, and even if Dustin Hoffman would take over one of the roles (even the part of the woman), we'd still find the play itself trapped in its own comic time zone. Comedy goes flat when the bottle has been open too long.

Luv
1177 Club
Continuing; 776-2101



Not old enough to be a period piece, the sexual and lovelorn antics of *LUV* seem slightly out of date. Richard Lauren (front), with Denise Schultz and Rodney Sheriff appear in the comedy.

Blooming One Acts

by Bernard Spunberg

Compression. Economy. Brevity. All three characteristics mark *Encounters*, an exhilarating evening of plays being presented by the One Act Theatre Company.

What an attractively compact form the one act play is! Concentration is kept in focus with an unrelenting hard edge. There's no waiting for the interesting part — the whole thing is riveting.

Riveting, that is, if the play is 27-year-old Craig Pettigrew's *Mandate*, based on the actual murder of liberal politico Allard Lowenstein by a former student. Sociologically, *Mandate* is the expulsion of a jagged shard of shrapnel lodged by a shotgun blast of madness and disillusion; dramatically, it is a spring

wound tightly. Director Simon Gray has littered the action with sexual references which reveal character and heighten tension, and Gerald Winer's portrayal of Lowenstein is seamlessly naturalistic.

Scott Smith is the murderous former student who can't stop reliving the terror of a white boy working for civil rights in Mississippi in 1964. His torment is multifaceted, linked to his self-hatred for the failure of his marriage as well as his paranoid conviction that his former mentor has been systematically harassing him.

Smith's metamorphosis from clean cut hunk to monster warms the heart even while chilling the blood. We want to reach

out and cradle him tenderly. Finally, we realize that his soul is lost, and can only weep.

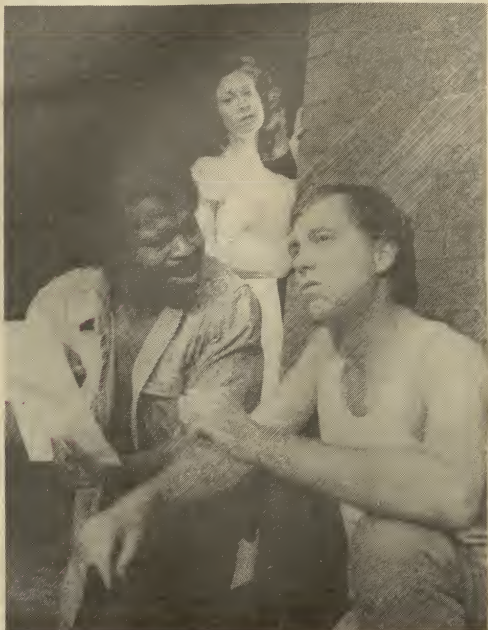
Holly Kern's *Taps* at 8:23, directed by Tom McDermott, is much more lighthearted, even though it deals with a funeral. Carol McElheny is an adorable Gram, the hilariously hep grandmother everyone should have. Maureen Coyne is Gram's daughter, Ruby, the formerly patchuli-drenched radical hippie who is now the kind of teacher she would have walked out on. Stacy Jack is Joni, abandoned to her grandmother's care at an early age and now heavily into punk.

There's a thin line between heartwarming and cornball, and these characters, though lovable, are stereotypes who fall into the latter category. This production, however, is blessed with deft pacing and a vivid and responsive ensemble which neatly sidesteps sentimentality while evoking the discomfort of a reunion of ridiculously disparate family members.

Tennessee Williams' *The Long Goodbye*, directed by Ric Prindle, is but a chip off the master's workbench. All those familiar Williams trademarks are here; the claustrophobic atmosphere of decay and regret, the pervasive sexuality, the mom whose chokehold on her son is not loosened even by her death.

All are authoritatively established and sustained, and the ensemble, strongly led by Ellery Edwards as the tormented son, make beautiful chamber music. Somehow, though, *The Long Goodbye* does not have much impact, probably because it follows *Mandate*, which burns with a white heat that makes anything that follows seem anticlimactic.

Peggy McDonald's three settings climax with a gloriously rotted *Long Goodbye*. You can almost smell the mildew. As a matter of fact, the entire One Act Theatre Company emits an odor throughout the evening, but it isn't mildew. It's more like a rose.



Melvin Thompson (L.), Anita Merzel, and Ellery Edwards in *THE LONG GOODBYE*, one-third of the One-Act Theatre bill *ENCOUNTERS*.

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BACK TO BATON

Babylon Goes to Olympus

PHILIP CAMPBELL

After years of ignorance and neglect, two of the world's liveliest art forms, Cinema and Opera, have finally discovered one another. Judging from some recent results, the affair will be passionate.

Until now, with the notable exception of Ingmar Bergman's enchanting *Magic Flute*, movies have been more interested in operatics (Yes, Giorgio; Luna; Diva) than operas.

Ironically, it's TV that has sparked renewed public interest in opera with hits like Franco Zeffirelli's *La Boheme* and Jean-Pierre Ponnelle's stunning version of another Puccini classic, *Madama Butterfly*. It was, perhaps, inevitable that film directors would follow suit. But while Hollywood remains wary, Europe has brought us two major releases back to back: Franco Zeffirelli's feverishly romantic version of Verdi's *La Traviata* and Hans-Jürgen Syberberg's towering filmization of Wagner's final masterwork, *Parsifal*.

Discussing the relative merits of each is pointless for the respective composers, directors, and operas themselves are all about as similar as apples and oranges. Both films succeed on their own terms and most importantly, the music has been well served.

Traviata has never been more limpidly lyrical. It is all rosy gold and midnight blue. Aside from the lavish production values, Teresa Stratas and Plácido Domingo look and sound

wonderful as the star-crossed lovers. If it ultimately does not prove as satisfying as Syberberg's more cerebral *Parsifal* it is simply because the opera itself is cut from far simpler cloth. In spite of the gorgeous party sequences, *La Traviata* is basically a chamber work and film has an uncanny knack for magnifying flaws. Seeing two lovers yodel their essentially unfounded passion to one another on stage is easier to believe in than in cinematic close-up, where it borders on face chewing. Nevertheless, it's outgassing E.T. in Paris and who can resist those glorious melodies?

Far more radical, in concept and execution, is Syberberg's probing interpretation of Wagner. *Parsifal* is a long and difficult opera filled with murky symbolism and undeniably sublime music. Syberberg delves deep into the complexities with shattering intensity and what results is a brilliant enactment of the score and a fascinating analysis of the composer.

Parsifal the film becomes a gloriously sung, superbly acted, and visually mind-boggling experience that also provides historical, political, and psychological insights.

There's enough happening on screen to provide material for several films and with a playing time of five hours, it is several films. Syberberg is almost always in control, displaying a mastery of cinematography, music, theological ideology, and hypnotizing theatrics.

filmmaker worked 15 hours a day and burned the candle at both ends.

Asked if any of the actors were worried about the impact *Querelle* would have on their careers Malet blurts, "Not me!" but adds, "Some of the people were scared (about working in a Gay film)." Franco Nero, for instance, "has this macho image . . ."

Malet says that Genet declined to participate in the film, writing producer Dieter Schidor that he "had nearly forgotten *Querelle de Brest*. That may have just been his way to be out of the game."

The actor thinks Fassbinder's film is "very faithful to Genet's world." He likens the two men in that "Genet is an outsider too.

Utilizing a setting that rivals anything in Fellini (an enormous death mask of Wagner), this remarkable director guides his characters, most notably Edith Clever (a medieval Glenda Jackson look-alike) in an unforgettable portrayal of the cursed Kundry, through a maze of symbols that serve to enlighten rather than confuse. No small task, when one considers that all of the performers, save two, are lip-synching their roles.

The laser voice of Yvonne Minton burning its way out of Edith Clever's tortured face is worth the price of admission alone, but this entire, albeit exhausting, experience deserves the necessary investment of time, concentration and ticket price.

I treated the event as though I were enjoying it in the Festival House at Bayreuth. The Castro Theatre always feels especially comfortable and my partner and I spent intermissions gorging on picnic food and making vain attempts at visiting the restroom.

When the performance ended there were a lot of bleary eyes, heated conversations, more than a few boos, and also a great deal of applause. Maybe not as dramatic as some operatic premieres in the past but certainly a fitting response to a movie that held a packed house silently mesmerized, heedless of the calls of nature for five incredible hours.

Parsifal and *La Traviata* may both be guilty of a certain excess, but it is not of the wretched variety. Opera will always be bigger than life and now that the movies have displayed it so thrillingly, the big screen will never be the same.

La Traviata is now at the Vogue Theatre and *Parsifal* will play a limited run at the Castro in June.

He doesn't belong to any party (or group)."

Querelle aroused a furor in Europe, Malet says. In France, "It was quite discussed in the Gay community . . . Genet is a god. You shouldn't touch a Genet novel." He says they considered Fassbinder "opportunistic" because of his heresy.

The next project for Malet is a film about the Algerian war, another hot topic in France. It will be shot in Yugoslavia in September. Asked if he's considering working in the U.S. he exclaims, "Who is NOT?" but adds that there isn't much opportunity for a European star in Hollywood: "They only want us to play foreigners."

(Gateway) S. Warren



"It's a lot of hard work being a Queen; and there are factions out there who don't like what I represent. Well, tough noogies," says Ethyl Eichelberger in "Nefertiti," one of the monologues he'll present in his one-man show, *The History of Western Culture as Seen Through the Eyes of Its Most Famous Heroines*, opening at 544 Natoma Performance Gallery on Thursday, June 2, at 9 P.M. "I have a right to be here; I've paid my dues. There have been Queens on this earth since before the building of the ancient pyramids, and I'm not the last Queen you'll see around here either." Eichelberger's show transcends drag or impersonation — he won an Obie (the off-Broadway Oscar equivalent) for his show, and his appearances here, through June 18, are a rare chance for San Franciscans to view an artist respected in New York without having to cross the country to do so! Info: 621-2683.

BROWN

(Continued from page 23)

"Where my head is at" and "my energy" are two of his favorite phrases. He also punctuates his every declaration with a disclaimer. For example, when he says "I don't think that kind of behavior is very mature," he then adds, "but I think it's marvelous for the people for whom it works."

Whether or not Brown's own

brand of humor will work and make him a national celebrity remains to be seen. In the meantime, he is behaving as if it were a certainty. He is now working on a cookbook, though he admits he is an awful cook, called *Not Just Another Pretty Brunch*. Sounds kitsch, doesn't it? Ultimately I think that is what Brown is about. He is a kitsch fellow trying to exploit his disposition for what he can. ■

S. Treimel

Gay History In City Hall

A Lesbian/Gay History Exhibit will be housed in City Hall June 20-26 as part of Gay Freedom Week. Exhibit creators Glennie McElhinney (861-5404)

and Sr. Salvation Armee (431-8776) request those with memorabilia that could be included in the exhibit to call them. ■



It may not be the ritziest theatre-going apparel, but *The Ritz* cast member Greg Bedford promises if you wear a towel to the show you'll get in free! *The Ritz* is at the Victoria Theatre, 863-7576.

18th Anniversary Party

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SPORTS SECTION

Tournament Season Begins

by Jesse McMaster

The first women's B slo pitch regional qualifier softball tournament took place May 14 and 15 in San Jose. Four teams from the S.F. Park and Rec. Women's A League travelled South to participate and battle each other and four southern teams for the one regional qualifying spot.

During the winter two long-time women's A teams had folded, scattering their top players among the remaining women's teams. The result has been a strong, evenly-balanced league with an exceptionally high-caliber of athletic skill and competition. This became evident after the first day of tournament play. Being a double elimination tournament there remained four teams after the last game on Saturday, and all four teams were from S.F. Scamps and Olsen Electric had one loss apiece, and the Artemis Cafe and S.F. Merchants remained undefeated.

Olsen Electric's defeat had come off the bats of Artemis as Artemis avenged a league loss by shutting out Olsen 9-0. The Scamps, who had lost to the Merchants in league play, fell once again, in a close game, by the score of 4 to 2.

Sunday morning's first game was between the two teams with one loss each, Scamps and Olsen Electric. Scamps bats cracked from the first inning and never stopped. In accordance with the ten run rule the game was called after five innings and Olsen Electric retired to the sidelines to cheer, scout, and party for the rest of the day.

Next the two undefeated teams played. In league play that same week Artemis had taken a 3-2 lead into the bottom of the seventh inning only to see the Merchants score two runs and win the game. Artemis wanted this game badly. More than half of the Artemis players this year were new to the team. In league play Artemis had lost three games and won only one. The scores were close, but a loss is a loss. On Saturday the team seemed to be working together as a finely-tuned unit and the confidence level of the players was obvious. Artemis was on a roll and the roll continued Sunday as they beat the Merchants 4-1 to advance to the championship game, to play the winner of Scamps and Merchants.

The Scamps took an early inning lead and still led as the Merchants opened the top of the seventh inning. True to their budding reputation as the league's premier come-from-behind team, the Merchants scored once again in their half of

the inning to take a 5-4 lead, held the Scamps in the bottom of the seventh, and advanced to the finals for a rematch with Artemis.

The final game was a close, see-saw affair in the tradition of these two teams. There were few errors and many outstanding defensive plays on both sides. As the Merchants came up in the bottom of the seventh inning, Artemis led 3-1. With two outs the Merchants loaded the bases, and Pam Patolo hit a clutch line drive single to score the tying and winning runs. For the second time in a week the Merchants had come from behind to beat Artemis 4-3 in the bottom of the seventh inning. Each team now had one loss. After a fifteen minute break the teams were on the field again for the final, and championship game.

Artemis had looked very down at the end of the previous game, and the big question was: after their heartbreaking defeat, would this team bounce back and continue to display their winning form? Artemis was certainly the team to beat, having displayed timely hitting and sharp, solid defense throughout the tournament.

The Merchants won the toss and once again took the field with the home team advantage. Artemis came to bat pumped up and serious. They scored two runs in the first, added another in the second, and increased their lead to seven after a three run homerun in the fourth. Everyone in the Artemis line-up scored a run in the game which showed strength, consistency, and balance of the batting order. Although the Merchants did score two runs in the bottom of the seventh, it was not nearly enough to catch Artemis who won the game 11-5, and captured a spot in the Regionals — a goal many teams strive all summer to attain.

Artemis returned to town to win their next league game against Silver Streak, 4-3, scoring the winning run in the bottom of the seventh inning. The Artemis has now won its last five out of six games; tumbling dice on a roll, they are hot. They play in a league full of phenomenal women athletes — full of teams all capable of catching the spark. In San Jose Artemis caught fire. Time will tell how long the flames will burn, or what team will catch fire next. In the meantime Artemis is having a ball, and victory is sweet.

Women's A league plays Tuesday nights at various city fields. Don't miss them! Contact the Park and Recreation Department for fields and times. ■



Indoor Sports. Thomas-Mark (L.) and Valentine Hooven star in the Theatre Rhinoceros revival of *A Perfect Relationship*, a comedy that centers around two friends who decide to live together to sidestep the problem of having a lover. They aren't sidestepping in this photo, however. The play runs Thursday through Sunday through June and July. Tickets: 861-5079. ■

Sacramento Dominates

First Annual Gay Bowling Tournament

by Jerry R. DeYoung

The First Annual Gay Bowling Tournament, held April 24th in Park Bowl, was a smashing success. Two squads composed the full line-up; the first, consisting of 9 teams, bowled from 12:30 to 3:15 p.m.; the second, comprised of 14 teams, bowled from 3:30 to 6:30 p.m.

As a bonus to the heady excitement of bowling with the best, there were generous cash prizes awarded to the First (\$195), Second (\$145), Third (\$105), and Fourth (\$55) place teams. Also, there was a \$3 side-pot into which any bowler could contribute and which was used to provide a cash award for the highest score of each game.

It was most assuredly a Super-Sunday for all the bowlers who participated, particularly for the members of the two top teams: All Mixed Up and SAGA II, both from Sacramento, who carried home \$345 in prize money, not to mention the prestige of defeating 24 other excellent bowling teams.

San Francisco was not completely left out in the cold. The Hi-Five and Pilsner Inn teams managed to quite handily cop 3rd and 4th positions respectively. (The last cash positions, I might add.)

Win or lose, high or low, we all had a great time August 24th and we are very much looking forward to the 2nd Annual Gay Bowling Tournament in 1984. Watch out Sacramento!!!

In the meantime though, here are the facts and figures of this wonderful first Gay Bowling Tournament held here in San Francisco. (You might want to remember that the team pin-totals include an 80% of 1000 handicap, while the 200+ games are scratch.)

SCORE	TEAM & CAPTAIN
3002	All Mixed Up, (Sac), Jerry Hicks
2966	Saga II, (Sac), Jan Hirnisen
2939	Hi-Five, (SF), Al Welinski
2894	Pilsner Inn, (SF), Keith Ray
2880	Atlas Savings, (SF), Dan Burley
2871	Pilsner IV, (SF), Aubrey Palmer
2869	Hot Trotters, (Sac) & (SF), Brad Cavalier
2854	Badlands, (SF), Mike Merritt
2852	No Name, (San Jose), Jim Hahn
2851	Grady's, (SF), Bill Shandra
2844	Play With It, (SF), Ralph Bremner
2837	Men's Room, (SF), Leland Jensen

Sports Clubs

Different Spokes Bicycle Club. Decide and ride. Meet 10 AM, McLaren Lodge, GG Park. Bring lunch. ■

C.S.L. Schedule

Games to be played June 5th at Rossi Field:
10:30 Pipeline @ Mint
Acme @ B.A.T.S.
12:00 Jack's & Slow Rush
Cinch @ Hot & Hunky
1:30 Rainbow @ Nap's
Bunkhouse @ Village
3:00 Nap's @ Bunkhouse
Village @ Rainbow ■

2506 No Name, (SF), Keith Ray
2296 Deluxe, (SF), Tony Szep

Mabels and Olympic Gold Medals are both women's teams.

The **WINNING TEAMS** consisted of these players.

ALL MIXED UP: Mike Bogrovill, Norene Johnson, Robert Perez, Jerry Hicks, and Dee Lusish.

SAGA II: Kathy Chunson, Mark Harrison, Norm Frohwein, Chris Nielsen, and Jan Hernusen.

Hi-Five: Pat Moore, Jerry De Young, Roger Spencer, Rod Hilacion, and Al Welinski.

Pilsner Inn: Ken Sexton, Pat Conlon, Dan Burley, Rick Wotring, and Keith Ray.

There you have it, an historic record of the outstanding achievements realized by some remarkable people during the very first Gay Bowling Tournament in San Francisco. ■

G.S.L. UPDATE

TOM VINDEFU

Crucial Contests

Jackson Field, 17th St. and Arkansas, will be the place to be this Sunday, as several important games will be held.

The Kokpit will host Trax in a battle for second place in the Barbary Coast Division. The Howard Bloomfield-sponsored "Pits" team rules a slight favorite to hold onto second place, although they must beware of Monty Casley's booming bat. This promises to be a good one.

Over in the Golden Gate Division, the Cafe Sn. Marcos will do battle with archrival and division leading Moby Dick at 11:45 AM. This game is always

a crowd-pleaser, as there is no better rivalry in the GSL. The undefeated Whalers feel that this is the year for them to defeat "The Cafe" and put a big dent in their (Cafe's) playoff hopes.

Super nice guy Cliff Wilson will see his Ambush squad play host to the streaking Pilsner Inn Penguins at 1:30 PM. The Pilsner, after losing their opening game, have come on with three straight victories and appear ready to challenge for the division title. The Ambush will try to regroup after suffering their first defeat last time out. This game could decide the division champion. ■




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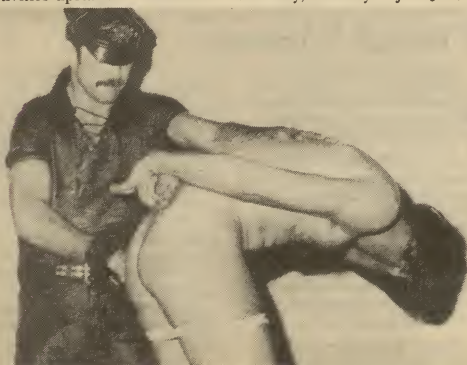
MY KNIGHTS IN LEATHER

Late Knight Spin-Offs

KARL STEWART

THE MEMORIAL WHIRLWIND

With the cars at Indy setting the tone, San Francisco in general and So/M specifically moved into the fast lane for Memorial Day Madness. It began with a smart party at Animals in honor of birthday #33 for owner Bobby Betcher and myself. From champagne and pate we proceeded to festivities upstairs. It was fun.



Savage Slave Driver. The Slave Auctions at Savages get pretty serious when Auctioneer Mack starts to work over a "difficult" slave. Chuck wore preppy clothes, which Mark quickly removed before pouring hot wax on Chuck and beating his bottom with a belt. Savages' next Slave Auctions are June 8 and 22 at 10 PM. They donate \$1 per person to the Shanti Project. (Photo: Rink)

I'm sure I speak for Bobby as well as myself when I say thanks to all of our friends.

So/M men were on the prowl. The bars were filled with fun and some incredible out-of-towners. The Hothouse turned in a packed house of hot ones during the weekend. Saturday night you couldn't turn down a hallway without either falling in love or running into an ex-lover. Lotsa tangling. One noted little piece of the building disappearing as the weekend went on — slowly dying, sort of. It was if an old friend passed out of our lives. More than that, it felt as though we were passing into a new era. Scared of the unknown, like darkness. I only hope we take a step forward, not backward.

More madness, this time at the Caldron, where Hal and the boys mounted another one of their sleazy fetes. Pigging out was easy to do last weekend.

The Brig gives rare but high quality events. This S/M bar served up a feast for the common man Sunday on the back pool table. Leather studs were pigging out here, too. Down the street, Steve, Warren, and Rick (R, S, & W) rounded up the cowboys for an old-fashioned beer bust with the Hen House tending a new, expanded menu.

Savages' innovation and promotion paid off in an "Erection Carnival" Sunday afternoon and eve.

We rested Monday. Well, perhaps just one Bloody Mary at brunch, but mostly rest.

KNIGHT SPOT

Larice isn't the only one with a book of Hints for the Leather-

man. Steve Hayes has one: "Never wear mascara while in a sling at a bath house. It always runs." Next case . . .

The Mistresses have hit town in a big way. This ain't nauga. Mst's Carol and Kathy define someone who puts on leather but doesn't live it as "Leatherette." Talking of that, which Constantine MC member celebrated birthday revels at the Eagle Saturday, not only to join JC's

for the Lesbian/Gay History Exhibit. They'll sing raunchy ditties, provide a living altar for candles, staff a Room of Repentance with a "Father Confessor" and tie Sr. Boom Boom to a rack, ready for flagellation. So go to it — let Boom Boom know how you feel and contribute to a good cause. There is an \$8 door charge with an open room policy. Uproarious activities will continue all night from 7 PM Friday until 10 AM Saturday.

TALENT KNIGHT

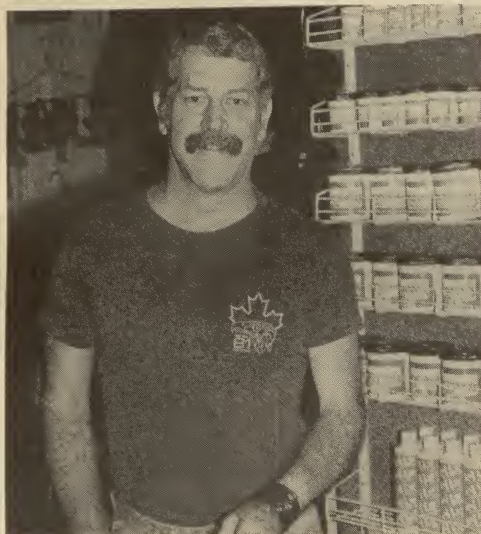
Tuesday's opening of Doric Wilson's Street Theater at Valencia Rose was directed by the High Heifer of Comedy, Lea DeLaria. The Mistresses, myself, and producer Jerry Semas caught her one-woman show last week at the Valencia Rose. Her talent doesn't quit. She sings very well and does stand-up comedy. She threw in a piece about the inner workings of a woman working on a clean-up crew in a factory. This characterization of a withered old washer woman was moving but much too long. Her comedy, though, is flawless. She concentrates on women ("Fuckin' Dykes") and being Gay. No one is safe: Gloria Steinem, Sarah Vaughn, Sally Gearhart and her Bay Area Women's Classes, Jackie O, and Holly Near all fell victim to Ms. DeLaria's stainless steel tongue. Lea includes a great send-up of Jeanne Dixon Predicts on a fictional TV station, KQER. Her home-made slides and support from her lover, Jeanine Strobel, are a complete evening of variety.

At the other end of the entertainment scale was Gary Menger's "Cabaret/San Francisco," a fundraiser to create a monetary reservoir for Hats Off Production's Cabaret Guide, which will be published toward fall. The evening featured the appearances of no fewer than 16 of our favorite cabaret stars here

(Continued on next page)



International Mr. Leather 1983 Coulter "Colt" Thomas struck a pose remarkably like the contest's poster drawing. He beat 43 other contestants for the title. (Photo: I.M.L. Studio)



Don Shadle works in the Ambush Leather Shop — one unnamed wag referred to him as "Super Daddy!" (Photo: Rink)

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The Catacombs is instituting a membership card policy. All members who have been to our current location will receive a free one-year membership by attending a Saturday or Tuesday Party* only. Your friends from out of the

area can get a single entry pass.

* Free membership offer expires July 31, 1983.

Special Offers to Catacombs Members

Every ninth time you attend a Saturday party, admission will be free. This policy extends to Tuesday as well. Eight Saturday visits get you one Saturday free. Eight Tuesday visits get you one Tuesday free. Visits must accumulate within a calendar year.

You can bring a friend as your guest free of charge once each month. This guest must be a Bay Area Resident with local ID and cannot have been to our present facility.

The Catacombs will have one of their "Special Parties" each month. Exact date to be announced at the Catacombs.

All other rules and policies of the Catacombs remain the same.

KNIGHTS

(Continued from previous page)

in the city, including Pam Brooks, Kevin Ross, Val Diamond, and others in countless musical shenanigans. Ross and his back-up singer Baomi Butts hit the ceiling with a rendition of "Mountain High." This Ms. Butts sure is sumptin'.

BULLETIN LORD

544 Natoma is mounting a month-long entertainment fest called Luna Park, beginning with the renowned impersonator Ethyl Eichelberger doing his famous heroines, June 2 through 18, with our painterly documentarian Lou Rudolph at his easel. There will be Performance Pieces by Mark Chester and Lou, as well as other guerrilla theater throughout June. Call 544 for details: 621-2683.

How much leather have you lost to thieves, tricks, ex-lovers, and the like? Let me count the ways! But Alan Selby of Mr. S on Seventh Street has a great solution. He will emboss your leather goodies with silver monograms. These letters are available in groups of three for just \$2.50 and can either be visible or hidden. He is also having



Chuck Kiser, Chicago's rep for "Club Scene" magazine, with the S.F. Eagle's J.C.

a sale in honor of the Marquis de Sade's birthday with 10% off all merchandise.

Be sure to check out the first Western meeting of members of Interchain (for men into leather) at the Brig, June 8, 9 PM. Fun, raffles, and surprises are in store.

TOP 25 will celebrate their third anniversary at the Troc Sunday, June 12, 7 PM 'til dawn. David and George pro-

vide San Francisco's finest DJ's with a home for wayward disco spinners: The Record Pool. Featured entertainers are Debbie Jacobs, Jeanie Tracy and those hot Dreamboys, as well as wild woman Taka Boom.

Don't miss Rita Rocket's Sixth Anniversary Party for the Bal-only Sunday, June 5, from 6 AM. Three bucks will get DJ's, no-host liquor bar, costumes, photos by Bobby Murillo, video by Walter Rowan, and even discounts to the Troc Tea Dance. How can ya beat it?

To relax Monday, June 6, you might stop by the Plush Room at 8 PM and let Scott Rankine (of Champagne! in a Card-board Cup fame!) lay some of his cool sounds on you.

If you don't want to relax, apply to the SFGDI's run above Auburn the weekend of June 17; 55 posadas buy into a weekend of MC revels, including all the grub and booze you can consume.

Relax this week and get ready for the rise to Gay Freedom Day. See ya in the skins! ■

K. Stewart

Karl's Calendar

Thursday, 6/2: Ethyl Eichelberger: History of Western Culture as seen through Its Most Famous Heroines. 544 Natoma Gallery, 9pm, \$5 - Thurs., Fri., Sat; Painting by Lou Rudolph. Marquis de Sade Birthday Sale. Mr. S., 227 7th St., 10% off thru 6/4.

Friday, 6/3: Bordello Night. Animals, SPI benefit, \$8; 7pm on.

Sunday, 6/5: 6th Anniversary Party. Bal-only (The Academy, 2166 Market); 6am-2am, \$3; no-host liquor bar, DJ Otis, Leona, Jonnie.

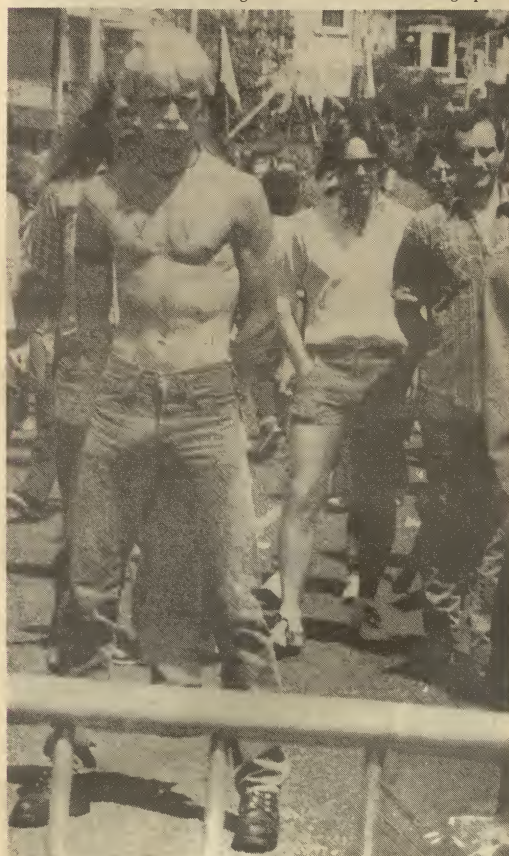
2nd Annual Blessing of Bikes. SF Eagle Patio, 3pm.

Monday, 6/6: Scott Rankine Concert. Plush Room, 8:30, \$6.

Cash Grab \$2,300. Ramrod, 10pm.

Wednesday, 6/8: West Coast Meeting of Interchain Club. Brig, 9pm; fun, prizes.

Ken Wood Art Show. Stables, reception 8-11pm.



While the crowd watched jugglers at the Haight Street Fair, here's what the jugglers saw. Very fair on Haight Street. (Photo: R. Pruzan)

Get Clogged

Janice Hanzell, artistic director of the Barbary Coast Cloggers, will begin an eight week course in clogging beginning June 6. The class will meet on Monday nights at the Nova Center, 16th and Dolores, and costs \$45 for the series. It's a chance to learn clogging from the Bay Area's best known teacher, have fun and meet new friends. Info: 829-0846. ■

Curzon Signs In

Author Daniel Curzon will autograph copies of his new novel, *From Violent Men*, at the Walt Whitman Bookshop, 2319 Market St., on Saturday, June 4, from 1-3 p.m. ■

Pride and Poetry

The Second Annual Gay Pride Month Poetry Series presents four weekly readings on Monday nights in June. The first, at 7:30 p.m. on June 6, includes Canyon Sam, Aurora Levins Morales, and Demece Garepis. At Modern Times Bookstore, 968 Valencia. Donation is \$2 - \$3. ■

Clementina's Shows

Suzanne Shanbaum and Nancy Vogl bring their acoustic rock to Clementina's on Sunday, June 5, 9 PM, \$3 cover, no minimum.

Pianist/singer Debbie Saunders performs from 6 to 8 PM on Monday, June 6. Free. ■

Reflections of Rio

Tropical Nights and Chevere' will combine talent on June 11 from 8 p.m. to midnight, for Reflections of Rio, a benefit dance in Building A of Fort Mason's Conference Center. Advocates for Women is sponsoring the event. Proceeds will go to their "Jobs Not Jail" Emergency Fund, which assists women coming out of the San Francisco Jails with tuition, housing, food, and clothing costs. Tickets are \$5 advance from BASS and \$6.50 at the door. Charge by calling 835-4342 or Advocates for Women at 391-4870. ■

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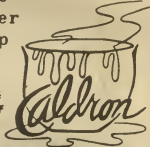
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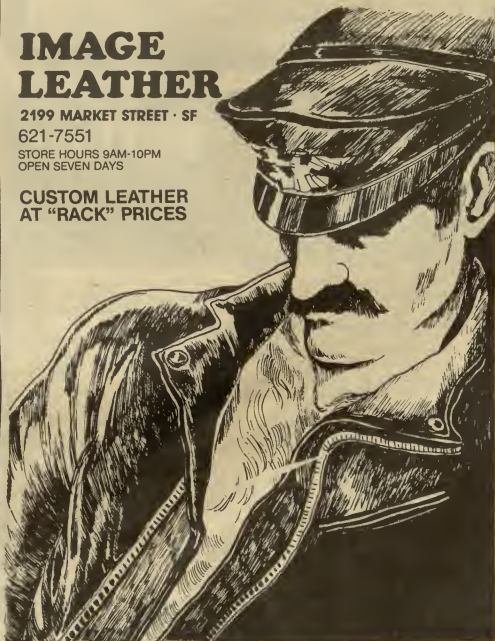
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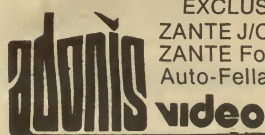
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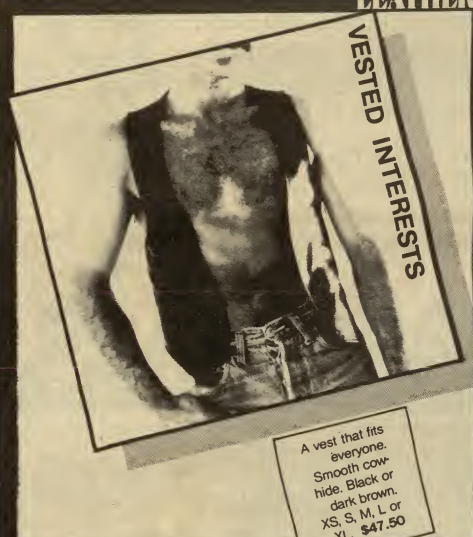
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PATIENT SERVICES

Assuring that adequate financial resources are available for necessary diagnosis and treatment.

PATIENT SUPPORT

Coordinating appropriate referrals or provision of services for emotional and psychological support for Kaposi's and Pneumocystis patients.

COMMUNITY EDUCATION

Educating the community at large in prevention and detection of these diseases.

The Foundation works closely with other organizations and agencies in the Bay Area and around the country which are also making contributions to the study and elimination of these diseases which are also seeking to meet the needs of affected patients.

PLEASE GIVE TODAY! We need your participation and we need your financial support.

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Power in the Raw

A Birthday for the Menacing Marquis of Attitude

by Tom Rogers

Today, June 2, is the 243rd birthday of the Marquis de Sade. Although he didn't invent it, his exemplification of a particular sexual activity led us to give its name to the dictionary in his honor: sadism.

He once wrote, "Every man is a tyrant when he fornicates." This statement is a buttress to the edification of sadism as one of the main wings of the libertine philosophy.

It is a fraction of that concept that we in the Gay leather community have come to call "attitude."

Attitude, according to our friends at Webster, happens to be just broad enough a term that it works in this context. Figuratively, that publication labels attitude as referencing the mental or moral disposition of a person. Comes from the latin word *ap-ut*, meaning to fit.

Attitude, according to my mentors on Folsom, the heart of the modern-day libertine movement, means the projection of (a) enough mal-intent to convince every man within ten feet of an "attitude practitioner" that their lives are in immediate danger, generously mixed with (b) enough charisma to cause most or all of those same fearful men to crawl at his feet, tears of joy and gratitude in their eyes for the anticipated experience of his tyranny.

The ultimate test is that he be able to secure this adulation without speaking a word and without using a wardrobe of any kind. It's called power-in-the-raw. A simple towel should work. Eyes that glow in the dark do help, but a chilling glare illuminated by a cigarette lighter often suffices.

Most attitude practitioners have developed a reputation for living up to the attitude being projected. To have created this reputation and still have hope of luring future willing victims, the successful practitioner had to allow his more talkative victims to survive, preferably in a state just slightly short of maimed. (Anything more is still regarded as socially unacceptable.)

While the most successful attitude practitioners acquired their success either by birthright (preferably as the result of a cross

involving a Roman bitch), or by a combination of the right drugs and survival of a collision with a bolt of lightning, it is possible to achieve success by rote practice.

Beginners should start by assessing their body, in particular their musculature. It is absolutely necessary to look as though you are physically (as well as mentally) capable of tearing a man's arm off. If you are everyman's picture of a 98-pound weakling, report to a gym and don't come out until you bristle with muscles.

The secret of sadism lies in the mastery of Attitude, without word or wardrobe. Just master musculature, voice, and gait; smile smugly, and take your Attitude to the bars.

The second essential assessment is of your voice. Buy a tape recorder and practice a manly tone until you have eradicated that girlish giggle that got you so much attention when you were "chicken." It is important that you achieve a vocal level that shakes pictures off walls with your delivery of a whispered curse.

The third essential assessment is of your gait. It is mandatory that the earth shake beneath your feet when you walk.

When you have achieved suitable muscular, vocal, and gait

development, you should begin by attending an evening in one of the Folsom Street bars.

As a beginner, you should wear clothes.

The first and most important thing to realize is that you must have a reason to feel superior. This gives you cause to smile smugly. (Since, as a beginner, you are still inclined to smile, it must be disguised.) For example: never mind that you only stand four-foot-nine in your new engineer boots. Look down on

the crowd by projecting that your intellect is fifteen feet tall.

While it should be obvious to most, I feel it is mandatory that you be cautioned not to order quiche should you be invited out to dinner by anyone who may have fallen for your attitude. To do so would blow you right out of the water.

Since the remainder of the lessons have to do with the lurid details of unlawful carnal knowledge, suffice it to say that if you begin practice now, by next year you'll be able to celebrate the Marquis' birthday in the dominant style. ■

Gay Men Over Forty Sought for History

Philip Willkie, a Gay freelance writer, is seeking to tape-record interviews with Gay men over 40. The interviews will contribute to a book on Gay life before 1970. Willkie is interested in a cross-section including men over 60, racial minorities, rural men, and artists. The interviews will focus on people's personal lives, bars and bath houses, on early social and political organizations, experiences in the mili-

tary during World War II and Korea, life during the McCarthy era and the rebelliousness of the 1960's. The book will be similar in style to a Studs Terkel book and *Word Is Out*.

Men over 40 who are interested in the project should send a short biographical letter to Philip Willkie, 117 MacKubin St. #5, St. Paul, MN 55102; (612) 291-2913. Names will be held in strict confidence. ■

Here Today;

Tomorrow —

The Bay Area Women's Party for Survival is showing the Academy Award winning documentary *If You Love This Planet* on June 3, 7:30 PM, at the Community College Building, 33 Gough. Another powerful documentary, *Growing Up In The Nuclear Age — What The Children Can Tell Us*, will be shown. Donation. All welcome; free parking; call for childcare. Info: 981-8909. ■

Original Works

By Blacks

The Lorraine Hansberry Theatre, 1115 Geary Street, commences its 1983 Playreading Series with a champagne reception (\$13) on June 8. The evening's work is Charles Gordone's *A Passaic Encounter*. Twelve other evenings (\$1 each) offer a dozen other new plays. Call 474-8842 for schedules and info.



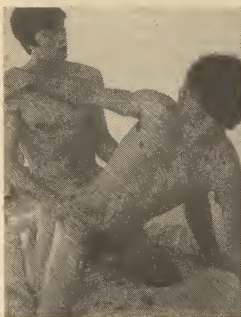
Mike Carr stars in *SOLOSEX*, the new live show at the Nob Hill Cinema. With lunchtime matinees and evening shows, everyone can catch it. Call the theatre for show times. (Photo: C. Enzi)

KARNAL KNOWLEDGE

Professionals On Parade

KARR

Michael Christopher is receiving top billing in half a dozen current movies, so it seems he's here to stay. It's a good thing that in Wm. Higgins' Printer's Devils he reveals some facets of his personality — let's say some personality — I didn't see during my first exposure to him in Tom DeSimone's Skin Deep.



Michael O'Leary and Jon King star in the PRINTER'S DEVILS video and the full-color magazine of the scene called "Cockshot."

From the neck down he's more than everything a porn fan could desire. A double acre of breast, a magnum of muscle, a cock whose tree-like circumference is matched by a popular length, an attentive and deep make-out technique and orgasms of dependable projectile pomp are all his. A great checklist, but undercut by a strange face which might be handsome if it didn't look — it's mean but true — dumb.

Viewing my videocassette of the film several times awakened my admiration of Higgins' dependability. This is not his best movie, certainly not when compared to the near classic Members Only or several other efforts. Yet it has an assurance that makes each section acceptably effective. If little of the video is viscerally exciting or passionate, Printer's Devils does have attractive boys, the best camera work and lighting and an endless stream of sucking and fucking. If the lack of foreplay and creativity in sex cuts down on our identification with the performers, and therefore the eroticism of the film, it doesn't hinder the video's ability to provide a hard-on for the viewer. The "hello; let's suck, let's fuck, let's JO to orgasm" formula lends a sameness to the episodes, which are basically interchangeable, but that ol' Higgins dependability is there. I found Printer's Devils did what sex films are supposed to do — turned me on. As such it's a decent video to own, especially for watching several scenes to begin an evening — a visual appetizer.

Although the video vindicates Michael Christopher's claim to leading man status, it's Michael O'Leary who is seen most in Printer's Devils. He appears in three scenes in which he plays (pardon the expression) straight man to Jon King, Derrick Stanton and newcomer Craig Scott. Like Higgins, O'Leary is dependable. A nineteen year-old with an unaffected personality, an undistinguished but attractive body



Michael O'Leary and supercharged Jon King tangle in the PRINTER'S DEVILS video and a full-color magazine of their scene called "Cockshot."

Turns out Skin Deep doesn't present him in best light. Sexually he's fine. But he's no actor and his attempt to fulfill the director's requests in that seriously plotted film make him appear more wooden than he is. Printer's Devils rectifies that, not enforcing a character on him but allowing him to be himself. That doesn't change that curious face of his, but it does reveal a casually hip, unaffected guy who is, simply, likeable.

That's the key to Printer's Devils, too. It's likeable. Higgins wins the All-American Medal of Sanitized Sleaze with this video film. It's constant sex, the plot taking only seconds between sex scenes. The crew of a printer's warehouse gets laid off and decides to waste their last afternoon swapping sex stories, which are seen in loops. In these each boy is laid off in another fashion. The stories arouse the crew to a group orgy. It's a simple frame which leaves Mr. Higgins lots of room for the sexy scenes.

and a fat cock, O'Leary provides a good foil to the take-charge desires of stalwart stars King and Stanton.

Probably the last King scene that will be made, Higgins close-up photography and wide-eyed lens capture King's cock at the fullest. This scene, along with Stanton's, conveys a passion the other scenes replace with professionalism. King throws himself onto each partner as if they were the lust of his life. He is both a top and a bottom to O'Leary, first bouncing in delirium as he sits astride O'Leary's cock while jacking off, and then topping O'Leary, grinding up and down and left to right. He puffs, moans, rolls his head as if in convulsions, resists cuming by thrashing and screaming. He's such an active boy.

O'Leary's second scene is with Craig Scott, who has a college prep body and a college prep cock. Their 69 is nice because their cocks are nice — watch for



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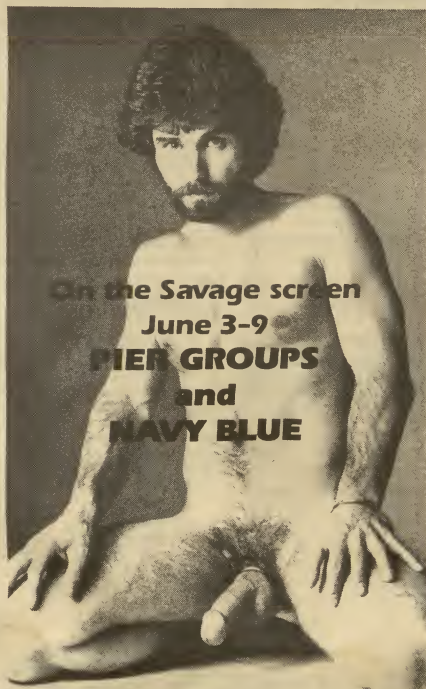
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SWEETLIPS SEZ

Drawer Dropping

DICK WALTERS

The Annual Castro Street Dog Show and Parade will be held on Sunday, June 12... this is always a wild event.

June 11 is the exciting Portland Rose Festival and I know that a lot of San Franciscans will be there, including Bob Cramer and his new flame, Peter, whose pic is printed here. Also Jay Noonan and Chester as always... did you recover from your day of playing last Friday, Jay?

Allan Scott drops drawers. Don't you know that it isn't nice to fool Mother Nature, Allan?

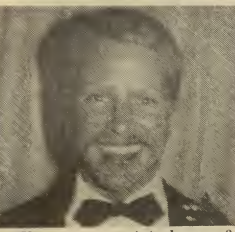
Hope you all enjoyed the Sutter's Mill/Mint Tricycle Race... you did a good job, Tommy Turner — here's looking forward to next year... can you give a handicap for us older folks if we enter?

Paul (Luscious Lorelei) Bentley of the Video Mart on 9th Street took his staff to Reno for the Memorial Day weekend. Paul is moving the Video Mart next door to much, much larger quarters... he does have one of the largest video tape rentals in the city... try him.

Gus and Attilio still are operating the dining room of the Red Eye Saloon on Jones Street and are serving some great meals. They're closed Sunday and Monday nights but open for

a great brunch on Sundays... keep up the good work, guys.

The Club Dori is no longer serving meals at any time... instead they have opened a new Piano Lounge with sing-along. That certainly is a change after all of these years of serving delicious meals... remember the old FREE spaghetti and salad feeds of the old days?



How to get your pic in the paper? Shack up with Bob Cramer and whisper the scoop to Sweet Lips... here's Peter, Bob's "new flame."

A unique and interesting bar on Polk Street to relax and enjoy a good drink is the Masque between Post and Sutter Streets. They have entertainment nightly with NO cover charge.

You still have time to purchase the \$1 chance tickets on a trip to Hawaii, airfare and hotel accommodations included, at the Kokopit or Google's... this is a

benefit for the two ball teams... the drawing will take place on Saturday, July 2, at the Kokopit. You need not be present to win.

Ask Trouble, Stark & Dolly's bassett hound, why I am going to name the firstborn "Cherry."

Queen Mary's Pub is having the "Big Poppa of the Tenderloin" Party and voting on Father's Day, Sunday — Daddy Joe Roland is not eligible to be nominated.

Father's Day is coming up... remember your Daddy! ■

the drop of natural lube atop Scott's cock, visible for only a second before O'Leary engulfs the cock with his throat. It's lusty details like this that mark Higgins' boys and keep the video interesting.

A talkative fellow, O'Leary launches into a third story for his workmates, detailing his encounter with Derrick Stanton. Stanton needs no introduction, and like King, acts as if what he's doing means something to him. After the obligatory kiss and 69, Stanton fucks O'Leary... everybody else has. But he comes up with several novel positions, providing good visuals for the camera besides throwing off some charisma. He talks dirty to O'Leary, O'Leary's cock and to himself before cutting loose with his trademark orgasm, long strands projected in solid ribbons across yards of space. If you like cum shots you'll be running this one backwards and forwards on your video machine.

This leaves three other

episodes. The first, opening the movie, pairs Christopher with Scott Dixon, seemingly the youngest of the cast. Higgins' wide-angle lens broadens the flaring rim of Dixon's bulbous cockhead, which is perfect for bumping teeth and lips over, which Christopher does before proceeding to a manly fuck. Dixon flashes a big boyish smile before rolling his eyes up in ecstasy as Christopher splits his ass. Like several other scenes, what this one lacks in interpersonal passion it makes up for with proficient, professional sex. I love the way Christopher jacks Dixon off as he fucks the boy. Christopher is so attentive. Some fuckers never notice their partners have cocks at all.

Eric Mandrell puts in a bid for future use in his scene with Charles Michael Jourdan. Jourdan's dyed blonde hair, cut-off T-shirt and designer jeans were a bit twinkle for me, but once out of them he looks fine, working a large dick with both hands and bucking under a stiff fuck from Mandrell. This one has a surly curl to his upper lip, somewhere between street punk and bee stung. The head of his cock is a golf ball atop a tee, and Jourdan tees off with no handicap. When Jourdan cries "harder," Mandrell advises "Don't Shoot!" I admire such helpful caution in an aggressor, but despite an exciting build-up, the scene ends before Jourdan's orgasm. In Higgins' magazine, *Youngmeat*, the climax is fully documented in full color photos. I have no idea why it's not on the video. A real oversight.

The finale is not so much an orgy but group sex, and includes

two fellows who have no other scene. They are an especially good match and share a nice fuck. Christopher tops Mandrell and delivers a smash finale orgasm.

It's true that other films may be hotter, sleazier, more passionate or romantic. But this one works at a basics level, and its straightforward sex will have your dick pointing straight forward, too.

You'll want to substitute your own music however. The *Printer's Devils* theme is nice, but repeated to the point of torture. One other thing I noticed — with its straightforward suck and fuck format there isn't much cock display here. I missed that, and if that's what you want, look elsewhere. Otherwise you know what you're gonna get here, and Higgins delivers.

The hour long video is followed by three bonus scenes, solo jack-offs for O'Leary (his cock looking bigger than in the feature), Mandrell (who spits on his dick and plays with a long dildo), and new face Jeff Hunter (his orgasm hits hard and he licks up his cum). The three scenes are a ten minute bonus you won't see in theatres. They're short but effective.

Higgins hasn't gone for broke in *Printer's Devils* but come up with a good one anyway. It's nice to be able to trust a porno filmmaker. ■

Wm. Higgins video cassettes and magazines are available from Catalina Video, 256 S. Robertson Blvd., Beverly Hills, CA 90211.

All photos this page by Wm. Higgins Studio.

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